THE

Edinburgh Magazine,

OR

LITERARY MISCELLANY,

For *FEBRUARY* 1789.

With a View of Culross Abbey.

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* Culrofs Abbey, in the County of Perth, is the feat of the ancient family of Dundonald, and ftands upon an eminence in the neighbourhood of the Royal Burgh of Culrofs, from which it takes its name. Here the Earl of Dundonald has coal works, extending under almoft the whole ground upon which the town and palace ftand. Thefe, of confequence, are entirely fupported by pillars of coal left for that purpofe, and a confiderable portion of the fea oppofite to the town is in the fame fituation. The Earl of Dundonald made the firft trial of his method of extracting tar from coals at this place, for which his Lordfhip procured a patent from Government, and which it is hoped will raife his family to be as refpectable for its wealth as it is already for its antiquity.

State of the BAROMETER in inches and decimals, and of Farenheit's THERMOMETER in the open air, taken in the morning before ſun-riſe, and at noon; and the quantity of rain-water fallen, in inches and decimals, from the 31ſt of January 1789, to the 27th of Feb. near the foot of Arthur's Seat.

	Thermom.		Barom.	Rain.	Weather.
Jan. 31	51	51	29.5	0.04	Showers.
Feb. 1	40	47	29.125	0.03	Cloudy, ditto.
2	40	45	28.675	0.12	Rain.
3	39	40	29.775	0.055	Ditto.
4	35	40	28.8125	0.04	Ditto.
5	36	40	29.15	——	Stormy.
6	37	40	29.2	0.02	Small ſhowers.
7	34	43	29.425	0.08	Rain.
8	34	44	29.025	0.06	Ditto.
9	34	37	28.975	0.075	Ditto, ſtormy.
10	43	40	28.925	——	Stormy.
11	34	37	29.735	0.03	Snow.
12	30	36	29.7	——	Clear.
13	41	46	29.675	——	Ditto.
14	46	49	29.275	0.03	Rain, ſtormy.
15	49	46	29.225	——	Clear.
16	30	36	29.95	0.015	Snow.
17	37	40	29.5	——	Cloudy.
18	46	47	29.6	0.05	Rain.
19	46	49	29.65	0.035	Ditto.
20	30	34	29.55	0.02	Ditto.
21	34	40	28.95	0.1	Ditto.
22	38	45	28.6125	0.04	Ditto.
23	34	38	29.025	0.05	Sleet.
24	38	46	28.7	0.03	Rain.
25	37	37	28.275	0.02	Showers.
26	37	39	29.3	0.08	Rain.
27	29	41	29.3	——	Clear.

Quantity of Rain, 1.02

Days.	*Thermometer.*	*Days*	*Barom.*
31.	51 greateſt height at noon.	16. } 21. }	29.95 greateſt elevation.
27.	29 leaſt ditto morning.	25.	28.275 leaſt ditto.

Errata in the *Regiſter of Weather* for laſt Month.
Jan. 24th Barom. for 24.7 read 28.7
Quant. of Rain for 0.755 read 4.755
Before the 6th line from the bottom ought to have been prefixed the word "*Thermometer*." The Decimal Cyphers are ſuperfluous.

Information with regard to Alexander Cunninghame, *Editor of* Horace, &c.

SOMETIME ago, when Dr Thomson published a Translation of the *History of Great Britain*, by Alexander Cunninghame, he was unable to ascertain whether the author was the same with that Cunninghame who published an edition of Horace with critical notes *. It is certain, that the editor of Horace was the person who proposed a new edition of the *Corpus Juris*. The Publisher has been furnished from a respectable quarter with the original petition of Cunninghame to the Parliament of Scotland, intreating assistance for carrying on that work, subscribed with his own hand. If this signature could be ascertained to be the subscription of the Historian, all further doubt as to his identity with the critic would be at an end. For this purpose, the Proprietor of the document has obligingly consented to allow it to remain for three months in the custody of the Publisher, for the inspection of the curious.

Copy of the Petition.

" *Unto his Grace, his Majesties High Commissioner, and the Right Honourable the Estates of Parliament*, Mr Alexander Cunninghame

Humbly sheweth,

" THAT he has made some progress in a Work upon the Civil Law in Four Volumes in Folio; in the *1st* and *2d* Volumes whereof, the Text shall be far more correctly published, than it has yet been; and the Notes upon it shall explain about Two Thousand Passages, which have not been Expounded at all, or which have not been Rightly Expounded, either in the *Amsterdam* Edition in Two Volumes in Folio, or in the Edition with the Gloss in Five Volumes in Folio.

" The *3d* Volume shall contain the Reconciliations of the opposite Laws: And it shall be written in such a method, that this part of the Study of the Civil Law, will become Pleasant, Useful, and Necessary.

" The *4th* Volume shall be a System of the Digests, by way of Principles and Consequences: Which way of Writing (tho' not yet attempted) will mightily contribute to the enlarging of the Understanding; and it will likeways render the Study of the Civil Law much less burdensome to the Memory.

" Now in regaird that the foresaid Four Volumes, will give a Truer and fuller view of the Civil Law, than all the Books yet Extant have done, and that they will save the Students of it a great deal of Time and Money: Seeing with the help of these few Books, one may acquire a more perfect knowledge of it in three or four Years, than he could do in Ten Years with the perusal of all the other Books of Law. And in regaird that so great a Work, which shall be finished in the space of Six Years, will be very Chargeable to the Undertaker,

" *May it therefore Please* Your Grace, *and* Honourable Estates of Parliament, *To allow to Your Petitioner Two Hundred* Pounds Sterling *Yearly for Six Years, toward the carrying on of this Work; Which as he has judged it his Duty, to make an humble offer of it to his own Countrey, so he Humbly presumes to think, that it is not unworthy of the Patronage, and Encouragement of so August an Assembly.*

ALEX. CUNNINGHAME."

" *Edin.* 19 *August* 1698.

" His Majesties high Commissioner and the Estates of Parliament, having considered this Petition, they remitt the consideration thereof to the committee for the securitie of the Kingdome.

(Signed) SEAFIELD J.P. D. P."

" *Edin.*

* See *Edin. Mag.* vol. 5. p. 223.

"*Edin.* 26 *August* 1698.

"The Committee for securetie of the Kingdome, having considered this Petition with the above remitt of Parliament, are of opinion, that his Majesties high Commissioner and the Estates of Parliament, burden the imposition on the tonnadge of shipping, with eighteen hundred pound (*Scots*) to be payed to the Petitioner yearly, as a yearly fee and salary, as Professor of the Civil Law in this Kingdome. And that he be nominat Professor for that effect; and that they remit to the Lords of his Majesties Privie Counsell, to allow the Petitioner to go abroad to qualifie himselfe farther for carrieing on the whole within mentioned for such tyme as they shall think fitt.

(Signed) ANNANDALE P. J. P. C.

Extract from Lady Craven's *Journey to* Constantinople.

Vienna.

I AM arrived here at last, through a very beautiful country; but must observe, that whoever wrote L. M—'s Letters (for she never wrote a line of them) misrepresents things most terribly—I do really believe, in most things they wished to impose upon the credulity of their readers, and laugh at them——The stoves of this country, which she praises so much, are the most horrid invention you can conceive. The country people in Germany seem to fear the cold very much; the casements of their windows are double; and there being no chimney in the rooms, there is no vent for fumes of any sort—so that the breath of the inhabitants of them rests in drops of steam on all the tables, &c. and the stink and suffocating heat that assails the traveller's senses when he enters any room, particularly where people are, cannot be conceived. I do not believe the German women, of the lower order, are very gentle tempers—for several of them flew into the most violent passions, when I opened a door or window—and shut them again immediately——My only resource upon these occasions was to go out into the yard.

I cannot help observing, that the questions asked travellers by the guards at the frontier towns are most ridiculous—Are you married or not?—Do you travel for your pleasure or upon business?—Your name and quality?——It put me in mind of a story told me by the Russian Minister at Venice, of a traveller who being asked his name, answered Boo hoo hoo hoo hoo—pray, Sir, says the guard, how do you write that? That, Sir, replied the traveller, is your business, I have told you my name;—it is impossible, I think, to answer gravely to questions so perfectly absurd.

Nothing is more striking, I think, than the variety of the officers dresses in the Emperor's antichamber—-The Hungarian and Polish I think beautiful, and I now am strengthened in the opinion I always had, though probably I have never told it, even to you, that every nation ought to preserve the fashion of their country—and that there is no necessity for mankind to ape one another in dress—

The Emperor gives a private audience for ladies that are presented to him. There was only myself and the lady who accompanied me that went into his room together; we met a Princess Esterhazi coming out—The Emperor was close to the door; and after bowing very civilly, he made us sit upon a sofa—and stood the whole time himself; I staid three quarters of an hour; there is no occasion to fear staying too long; for when he cannot spare any more time for the audience,

or

or for any other reason chooses to end it, he very civilly says, he will detain you no longer; you then get up, and go to the door, which he opens himself—and thus ends the presentation ——I think much more agreeably than to answer any questions a Sovereign chooses to make before a hundred people that are within hearing in the circle of a drawing-room—who generally repeat what they hear, according to the folly or malice they possess —and I should think it totally impossible for a monarch to converse with any satisfaction surrounded by so many ears, which have often no brains belonging to them——The Emperor is like the Queen of France, and the only thing that *gené* me at all was his not being seated—He converses politely and agreeably———

There is one thing here that shocks me, and that is, that every lower class of women paint white—and even girls of ten years old going of errands in the street are painted—What their reason for so doing is I cannot guess; for the Germans are generally fair.

Warsaw.

When I arrived at Warsaw, I found my apartments had been warmed and ready two days before my arrival; the Comte de Stackelberg having bespoke them, by the desire of Prince Galitzin —and the Russian Minister C——de S—— waited on me—He is sensible, and even witty—he presented me to the King, the day after my arrival, in the evening—The King received us in his study; I was accompanied by the Grand Marechal's wife, who is one of the King's nieces—— You, Sir, do not speak better French and English than that amiable Sovereign —he told me he had been in England thirty years past, and asked me if Mr W——— was still living—not only living I replied, Sir; but in good spirits; for I have a charming letter in my pocket from him———He said, if there was nothing imprudent in his request, he would ask to see it. He imagined Mr W's. stile must be uncommon; I gave him the letter—he put it into his pocket after reading it, and told me, as his sister, the Princess of Cracovia did not understand English, he should translate it into French for her; and if I would dine with him two days after, he would read me his translation, which indeed surprized me. He must be a very elegant writer in every language he chooses to profess ———I wish I had dared to have asked him for a copy———Well, Sir, he is the second person I have seen, whom I wished were not sovereigns--- for it is impossible that the many disagreeable persons and circumstances, that surround them, should not deprive them of the society of people who, sacrificing only to the Muses, are better company than those who only sacrifice to ambition, when they give their time to sovereigns———We were only fourteen people at the King's dinner, and we conversed as chearfully and as rationally as if we had not been at a court———

Karasbazar, in the Crimea.

Yesterday I went to see the source of the river. I rode a white horse of the general's, a very quiet creature, but aukward, not being used to a side-saddle——

The old Cossack chief looked with the greatest astonishment at my riding, and when I jumped down from my horse on returning home, he kissed the edge of my petticoat, and said something in his language which I did not comprehend, but the general told me he had paid me the highest compliment imaginable, viz. I was worthy of being a Cossack-----

In the evening I went in a carriage with the governor and general to Karasbazar—and on the road saw a mock battle between the Cossacks—

I was much entertained, and pleased—and desired the Cossack Chief might have my best thanks—I arrived at the town, and was led to the Kadi's house, where his wife received me,

me, and no male creature was ſuffered to come into the room, except the interpreter and a young Ruſſian nobleman only twelve years of age. This woman had a kind of turban on, with ſome indifferent diamonds and pearls upon it. Her nails were dyed ſcarlet, her face painted white and red, the veins blue; ſhe appeared to me to be a little ſhrivelled woman of near ſixty, but I was told ſhe was not above fifty—She had a kind of robe and veſt on, and her girdle was a handkerchief embroidered with gold and a variety of colours——She made me a ſign to ſit down; and my gloves ſeeming to excite much uneaſineſs in her, I took them off—upon which ſhe drew near, ſmiled, took one of my hands between her's, and winked and nodded as a ſign of approbation—but ſhe felt my arm up beyond the elbow, half way up my ſhoulder, winking and nodding—I began to wonder where this extraordinary examination would end—which it did there——Coffee was brought, and after that roſe-leaves made into ſweatmeats—both of which the interpreter obliged me to taſte—The ſweetmeats are introduced laſt, and among the Orientals they are a ſignal that the viſit muſt end Our converſation by the interpreter was not very entertaining—She aſked if I had a child, and told me what I have been told ſo often before, though I confeſs not by women*, that would be unneceſſary to repeat it—-A Tartar houſe is a very ſlight building of one ſtory only—no chair, table, or piece of furniture in wood to be ſeen—large cuſhions are ranged round the room, on which we ſat or reclined—but what is extremely convenient, I obſerved more than double the ſpace of the room behind the wainſcot, which drew back in moſt places, ſo that in a ſmall room where it appears there is nothing but the cuſhions—every neceſſary is to be found——As the viſit was at an end, I curtſied, and ſhe bowed. In the court-yard there was a dancer, a woman accompanied in her geſtures by a boy, but it was impoſſible to ſee them either with pleaſure or propriety: ſhe never lifted her feet off the ground but once in four minutes, and then only one foot at a time, and every part of her perſon danced except her feet——I went to a Moſque, where ſeveral pious Muſſulmen were going round in a circle in the midſt of the building, groaning and flinging their heads almoſt to the ground and then up again, a conſtant motion which with the moving round one way ſoon puts them into a kind of torture, under which they fall to the ground; and then are dragged into receſſes in the Moſque, made on purpoſe to receive theſe holy men, who ſacrifice ſo many hours, and their perſons to idle pain, in order to prove their devotion to Mahoment.

Batcheſerai, April 8, 1786.

In my way hither I dined at the Coſſack Chief's poſt—and my entertainment was truly Coſſack—A long table for thirty people—at one end a half-grown pig roaſted whole—at the other a half-grown ſheep, whole likewiſe—in the middle of the table an immenſe tureen of curdled milk—there were ſeveral ſide diſhes made for me and the Ruſſians, as well as the cook could imagine to our taſte——The old warrior would fain have made me taſte above thirty ſorts of wine from his country, the borders of the Don; but I contented myſelf with three or four, and ſome were very good. After dinner from the windows, I ſaw a

* Tartarian and Turkiſh women, deriving the only pleaſures of ſociety from women, have none of that envy which prevails in European female breaſts—and among the Tartarian and Turkiſh women, the extravagant encomiums which fall from the lips of a man deſperately in love with a pretty woman, are to be heard and are in frequent uſe.

a fine mock battle between the Coſſacks; and I ſaw three Calmoucks, the ugliest fierceſt looking men imaginable, with their eyes ſet in their head, inclining down to their noſe, and uncommonly ſquare jaw-bones—Theſe Calmoucks are ſo dexterous with bows and arrows, that one killed a gooſe at a hundred paces, and the other broke an egg at fifty——The young Coſſack officers tried their ſkill with them, but they were perfectly novices in compariſon to them—they ſung and danced, but their ſteps and their tones were equally inſipid, void of grace and harmony.

When a Coſſack is ſick he drinks ſour milk for a few days, and that is the only remedy the Coſſacks have for fevers.

Batcheſerai is ſituated in ſo ſteep a valley, that ſome of the hanging pieces of rock ſeem ready to fall and cruſh the houſes——About a mile from the town on the left, I ſaw a troop of well-dreſſed Tartars, there were above a hundred on horſeback; the Kaima-Kan * was at the head of this company, who were come out to meet and eſcort us, but I who did not know this, aſked the Governor if there was a Ruſſian poſt here; which there is above the town, of a thouſand men——There are five thouſand Tartar inhabitants here; I do not believe there was a man left in his houſe, the ſtreets being lined with Tartarian men on each ſide; their countenances were very ſingular, moſt of them kept their eyes fixed on the ground, as we paſſed; but ſome juſt looked up, and, as if they were afraid of ſeeing a woman's face uncovered, haſtily caſt their eyes downward again; ſome diverted at the novelty, looked and laughed very much.

The Khan's palace is an irregular building, the greateſt part of it is one floor raiſed upon pillars of wood painted and gilt in a fanciful and lively manner--the arch, or laſt-door way, has fine proportions, a large inſcription in gilt letters is the chief ornament——I am told it was perfectly in ruins, but the governor has had it repaired, new gilt and painted for the Empreſs's reception——Court within court, and garden within garden, make a variety of apartments where the Khan walked from his own reſidence to the Harem †, which is ſpacious and higher than the other buildings—What I thought pretty enough was, that ſeveral of the ſquare places under his apartment were paved with marble, and have in the center fountains which play conſtantly—

I never ſaw ſuch a variety of colours—different coloured gold and ſilver mixed together——The Kaima-Kan, and two other principal Tartars, ſupped with us, and I find nothing can exceed the ignorance and ſimplicity of theſe people—The Kaima-Kan is the Khan's firſt miniſter. --He is totally gnorant of the geography of his own country; and ſays that England and Peterſburgh are the ſame thing——

Sevaſtopole, April 12, 1786.

I muſt not forget to tell you that I went, as I told you I ſhould, to dine with the Kaima-Kan's ſiſter, whoſe harem, with her huſband's houſe, is ſituated in a very romantic manner at the foot of ſome very extraordinary rocks, from which iſſue many clear ſprings, that ſupply the houſes and her bath with perpetual freſh water; there

is

* That word means the Khan's firſt miniſter—a perſon called him Cream of Tartar—which I fearing he ſhould be told of, turned into the cream of Tartars—which he ſaid was no wonder; as he was ſo——

† Harem means that apartment where the women reſide; which is always a ſeparate building from that which the maſter inhabits—and ſiſters, mothers, wives, or miſtreſſes all inhabit the Harem——

is a ſtrange appearance on the ſummit of thoſe rocks, places where immenſe cables have certainly paſſed and been tied—The Tartarians inſiſt upon it that the ſea once lay at the foot of them—and ſhips were faſtened to them——We dined in the huſband's apartment, a very dirty ſhabby place for ſo rich a gentleman——Tartarian cookery conſiſts in much greaſe and honey——After dinner, the Kaima-Kan walked acroſs a yard and I was bid to follow. I did ſo into another court, where four women and ſome young girls met us, and laſt of all his ſiſter---her dreſs was magnificent, particularly her girdle, in the front of which were two circles like bracelet lockets; the centers of them contained two fine emeralds——She offered me a large goblet which held two quarts of ſherbet, an indifferent kind of lemonade---after that coffee, and laſt of all ſweetmeats——We converſed very well by ſigns, ſhe was neither old nor ugly; but how is it poſſible to judge of a countenance hid under bad painting, and eye-brows which join into one ſtraight line drawn acroſs the noſe——My gloves gave her the ſame uneaſy appearance I had ſeen in the other Tartarian woman, ſo I pulled them off, but ſhe was not ſo curious as the other, and it ſeemed to be a high entertainment to her brother to ſee us converſe by ſigns. I wore a *chemiſe* with two rows of very fine lace at the boſom, which I thought would ſurpriſe her: but lace, and every magnificence which is not gold, ſilver, pearl, or diamonds, I am told paſſes unnoticed——Linen is not much in uſe; their ſhifts, and the ſhirts of the men, are generally made of very thin ſilk, or ſilk mixed with cotton, which is ſeldom changed; but the very frequent uſe of baths makes this cuſtom leſs loathſome than it would otherwiſe be—When ſhe had quitted the harem, her brother ſtaid behind a little, and afterwards came up to me, kiſſed the bottom of my gown, and preſented me a very beautiful handkerchief of his ſiſter's embroidery, which the governor told me I muſt accept---I deſired the Kaima-Kan to thank her, and tell her I would keep it for her ſake----It is of muſlin, the borders embroidered with different coloured ſilks and gold, and what I cannot comprehend, both ſides are the ſame——

I ſhould be glad you could ſee this place—From the ſingularity of the coaſt, the harbour is unlike any other I ever ſaw; it is a long creek that is formed by the Black Sea between two ridges of land, ſo high that The Glory of Catherine, one of the largeſt ſhips in the Ruſſian navy, which is at anchor here, cannot be ſeen, as the ſhore is above the pendant—The water is ſo deep that this ſhip touches the land——All the fleets in Europe would be ſafe from ſtorms or enemies in theſe creeks or harbours, for there are many. Batteries at the entrance of them, on one ſide, would be ſufficient effectually to deſtroy any ſhips that would venture in, and placed towards the ſea muſt even prevent the entrance of a fleet——The Compte de Wynowitch commands here, and has a little farm at Inkerman, which muſt have once been a very conſiderable and extraordinary town; at preſent the only remains of it are rooms hewn out of the rock. Here is a large chapel, the pillars and altars of which are extremely curious; the ſtone is whitiſh, and not unlike marble. I climbed up a ſtair-caſe, and crept into and out of very extraordinary ſpaces large and commodious; I entered at the bottom of theſe ſingular habitations, and like a chimney-ſweeper came out at the top; and though it coſt me not a little trouble in turning and climbing up ſo high, I had no idea I had mounted ſo much, till on looking about me I turned quite giddy, in ſeeing the Bay of Inkerman and all the Black Sea, at leaſt two hundred and fifty feet beneath the place where I ſtood——

Account of a French Play called L'Optimiſte, *or, The Man Content with Every Thing.*

THIS Play is the production of M. Collin d'Harleville, who had already given a very favourable ſpecimen of his dramatic talents, in a piece called the *Inconſtant.* The preſent performance has been received with the greateſt applauſe on the French ſtage, and is founded on a character not unnatural, though, it muſt be confeſſed, if not altogether ideal, yet extremely uncommon. Plinville, the principal perſon of the drama, is a man of a happy temper, and ſo much diſpoſed to be pleaſed with every thing, that he finds ſources of pleaſure and contentment in thoſe diſaſtrous occurrences of life, that overwhelm other people with chagrin and deſpondency. His character is contraſted with that of Morinval his friend, a widower, and a ſuitor of his daughter Angelica; a man of a moroſe and melancholy temperament, on whom the evils of life and the unavoidable calamities that fleſh is heir to, have made a deep impreſſion.

While Plinville intends to give his daughter to Morinval, chance introduces a young man to him, named Belfort, whom he retains in his family as a ſecretary, and approves of his teaching Angelica the Engliſh language. Love inſenſibly ſteals into the heart both of the maſter and ſcholar; but both conceal their paſſion from each other, and from the family. Madame de Rozelle, a niece of Plinville, extracts the ſecret from Belfort, who, moreover, informs her that his real name is Dormeuil, that he is the ſon of a ſoldier of rank, whom an unlucky paſſion for play has ruined paſt reſource; that, obliged to quit the military profeſſion, which he himſelf had embraced, he had changed his name, and was endeavouring to obtain ſome honeſt employment, when chance threw him in the way of M. Plinville and Angelica.

Plinville had left in the hands of one Dorval, a friend of his, at Paris, a hundred thouſand crowns. This Dorval is a gameſter, who loſes his whole fortune at play, together with the money that belonged to Plinville. When the news of this diſaſter arrives, the man content with every thing begins to make his reflections as uſual, and figures to himſelf the pleaſures of an humble ſtation, in which he can live retired and happy. His daughter hopes, that this alteration in the circumſtances of her father will determine Morinval to relinquiſh his ſuit. Though ſhe had behaved to him with civility, and meant in obedience to her father's wiſhes to become his wife, yet her coldneſs had ſuch an effect on Morinval, who was naturally prone to diſcontent, that he was juſt about to reſign the hand of Angelica, when the news of her father's misfortune reached him. He immediately reſolves not to abandon his friend in adverſity, and perſiſts in his addreſſes to the daughter. This determines Belfort to quit the place, and he is juſt ſetting out, when he receives a letter from old Dormeuil, who has ſuddenly retrieved his fortune, deſiring his ſon to meet him inſtantly at an inn in the neighbourhood. While he is abſent, Morinval diſcovers that Angelica's affections are fixed on this young man, of whom he has a high opinion; he immediately reſigns his own pretenſions, and generouſly offers to beſtow a great part of his fortune on Belfort, provided Plinville will conſent to his marriage with Angelica. The good man, tranſported with joy and penetrated with gratitude at this generoſity of his friend, runs out to impart the circumſtance to his wife, a woman of a peeviſh, conceited, and obſtinate character; but ſoon returns dejected, owning that a man may be put of humour *once in his life.*

Madame

Madame de Plinville, it ſeems, will not have Belfort for her ſon-in-law; he is an adventurer, ſhe ſays, a man without a name.

At this time, Belfort, with his father, appear on the ſcene. The latter announces himſelf as a perſon who wiſhes to purchaſe Plinville's eſtate, now to be ſold. He gives a ſhort hiſtory of himſelf, confeſſes that he was once ruined by gaming, but that he has now re-eſtabliſhed himſelf by gaining ſix hundred thouſand livres from one Dorval, a gameſter at Paris. "Alas!" cries Madame de Plinville, "that's our money you have gained." "Well," ſays the other, "I will give "you a hundred thouſand crowns for "your eſtate; the money ſhall be "yours, and the eſtate ſhall be your "daughter's, provided you will give "her in marriage to my ſon." When it is found, that this ſon is no other than Belfort, the joy becomes general, gaiety and good humour again take poſſeſſion of the ſoul of the optimiſt, who recapitulates the events of the day, and concludes, that every thing undoubtedly is always ordered for the beſt.

The following ſcene diſplays the characters of *Plinville* and *Morinval*.

ACT III.

Scene 9.

M. de Plinville. M. de Morinval.

Plinville. AT laſt then, you are convinced of Angelica's love, and you will now, I hope, be happy.

Morinval. Yes, if ſuch a thing as happineſs were to be found.

P. How! if it were to be found! That's a good jeſt indeed. So you are in doubt ſtill?

M. Yes.

P. Don't you love my daughter?

M. I adore her.

P. Does not Angelica love you in return?

M. I believe ſhe does.

P. You will ſoon receive her hand and her vows. What would you have more?

M. Is happineſs the certain conſequence of marriage?

P. Ah! my good friend, marriage—

M. Marriage I know has its ſweets; it ſcatters a few flowers on the road of life, but under theſe I deſcry cares, and diſappointments, and diſquiets.

P. And why don't you rather endeavour to diſcover its pleaſures and its charms? Think of thoſe little pratters that are to be the pledges of your love.——

M. Alas! they are unhappy beings to whom I ſhall give birth.

P. Good. Your children are miſerable before they are born.

M. I was ſo, I have continued ſo; God grant that they may meet with a happier fate. But it is impoſſible that they ſhould eſcape ſorrow; man cries and ſheds tears at the inſtant of his birth.

P. Theſe tears are a language; they are not the indication of complaint.

M. His infancy is threatened with a thouſand diſeaſes: and for two whole years he lies impriſoned in a cradle.—

P. The loftieſt tree was once but a twig.

M. A virulent poiſon circulates in his veins, that ſooner or latter disfigures or deſtroys him.

P. But inoculation has been diſcovered, and is now generally practiſed.

M. And has the diſeaſe diſappeared?

P. No, but it is no longer dangerous. 'Tis a lucky diſcovery for the fair ſex. They do not now dread the loſs of beauty.

M. But how many are the other diſeaſes!—

P. If there are many diſeaſes, we have plenty of phyſicians.

M. Plenty of phyſicians! That very circumſtance is an additional aggravation of the evil.

P. Nay, now you betake yourſelf to common-place declamation. Our ſufferings

ſufferings are, in truth, but too often the fruits of our own intemperance. Nature loads us with her gifts, we abuſe them all, and then complain of the conſequences.

M. There may be ſome truth in that; but in how many inſtances are we not excuſable in complaining! For inſtance, is it in our power to command wealth?

P. No, but the poor man who is content is happier than he who is only rich. Heaven is impartial; the induſtrious tradeſman and the healthy peaſant, have their pleaſures as well as we, pure pleaſures, and ſuch as are ſuited to their condition.—

M. You do not allow then, that there exiſt any real evils?

P. Very few.———

M. And thoſe domeſtic enemies, our paſſions, are, in your opinion, only imaginary evils?

P. Ah! that's excellent! You call our paſſions enemies. I maintain that without them we ſhould be degraded to a level with the brutes. We muſt have paſſions; I tell you, we muſt have paſſions: they are real bleſſings, provided they are directed to proper objects.

M. Ay, direct the paſſion of love for inſtance!

P. Why not? have you never felt the ſweet ſenſation of honourable love? Have you never known the luxury of love returned? Have you never —— I could have talked to more purpoſe on this ſubject when I was five and twenty. Alas! I have paſſed that happy period, it is gone never to return. But one bleſſing always comes to ſupply the place of another. I have had my time of love, friendſhip now conſoles me for its loſs, and I thank heaven for yours.

M. You talk of love and friendſhip; they are not the half of our paſſions: Do you think nothing of avarice, of ambition, of envy, or of hatred? You that paint every thing in ſuch agreeable colours, I defy you to deck theſe with any impoſing attractions.

P. To be ſure the names are frightful, but the things themſelves are very rare. In our days there are very few avaricious people, and of envious perſons, I thank God, I do not know one. Hatred is no very common vice. Ambition, perhaps is rather more frequently met with; but whether it ſoars to wealth or honours, it is the fault of noble minds, and it is ſometimes a virtue rather than a vice. Every thing has its time. Infancy is the ſeaſon of playfulneſs; youth is devoted to the delights of love, and maturer age to the pleaſures of rearing a family. Believe me, Morinval, happineſs is to be found in every period of life.

M. You will ſoon know whether it alſo attends old age.

P. Undoubtedly it does, my friend. When ſpent as it ought to be, old age has its innocent pleaſures, as well as youth. It is the ſeaſon of repoſe, and of delightful recollection. I like to view the ſlow and ſedate pace of a venerable old man, his white hairs give me an idea of a patriarch. He is the guide of the young, and he is reſpected by them; and when he tells his ſtory every ear is attentive.

M. And what happens at laſt?

P. What happens! why—he finiſhes his courſe. It is as natural to die, as it is to be born. And as I have lived happy, ſo I reſolve to continue joyful and contented to my lateſt moment, and then I ſhall die without regret.

M. Well—It is now my turn to ſpeak and to refute you by a thouſand facts. I maintain, that every thing here, every thing by heavens, without exception, whether in the natural or moral world, happens for the worſt. Man ſuffers at his birth, during the whole period of his life, but eſpecially at the concluding ſcene. Grief of mind, and pain of body, never fail to torment

torment him; they give him neither peace nor truce. Earthquakes harrafs him by land, and tempefts by fea. And, as if thefe natural evils were not fufficient, he has invented battles, devifed tortures, and added innumerable other mifchiefs to his own vices. The innocent fall victims to the avarice of wealth, or to the wantonnefs of power. Honour is infulted and virtue derided. All our virtues are falfe, and our joy is indecent. We grow old at twenty, and wanton at fixty. Marriages are made without affection, love is unknown, women are coquettes, and no longer the objects of refpect or regard. People never think of paying their debts; but they are generous forfooth, and every news-paper paragraphs their generofity. The world is peftered with infipid profe and wretched verfe. Every thing is made a fubject of argumentation, and of every thing we reafon wrong. In fhort, I fee nothing in this world but folly, or mifery, or crimes.

P. This is really a confolatory picture of human life, but I am convinced you do not yourfelf think it a likenefs. I am unable to divine the caufe of fuch exceffive fpleen. You talk of earthquakes and tempefts. Keep in your native province, my friend, and you have neither the one nor the other to dread. I deteft war as much as you do, but the world grows wifer, and we fhall now have little more of that. People run in debt, you fay; it is but too true; they are to blame; but why do they get credit? Marriages are made without affection.—I refer you to my wife for an anfwer. Love is unknown—afk Angelica. The women are all coquettes—no matter; the fex were made to pleafe, and they underftand well the art of captivating the heart. All our pleafures are falfe, you fay, and yet I think I have feen you at table enjoy true pleafure in the converfation of our little fociety. The world is peftered with bad verfes—do not read any of them: there are poets, however, in our days whofe verfes I repeat with extafy. People reafon wrong—yes, fometimes, and now and then a falfe fyftem mifleads us—between ourfelves you are a pretty good proof of it. But moderate your fpleen—and you will be convinced that mankind are neither foolifh, nor wicked, nor unhappy.

M. I tell you, I infift that—but it is needlefs to talk to you. When I am in earneft you are in jeft—how is fuch a man to be convinced? But indeed I fhould be forry to convince you. May you long preferve, Sir, your happy temper.

P. If that temper were not natural to me, I would acquire it. I am not blind, and I too can fee a few evils; but I fee many more fubjects of pleafure and felicity. I enjoy the good things of life and bear its evils. But for God's fake, what are you the better for this inceffant repining? Your very murmurings are an aggravation of your unhappinefs. Quit then, my good friend, your fuperfluous complainings, acknowledge the wifdom of heaven, and be affured, that every thing in this world is ordered for the beft.

The Defcent of Odin *tranflated from the* Edda *.

THE *Edda* is a collection of ancient poems, written originally in the Norfe or Iflandic language, and is referred to by the celebrated Norwegian hiftorian, *Snorro*, as the genuine fountain of northern mythology. In the laft century it began firft to obtain fome degree of notice among the learned. Some of them, however, confidered it as an abfurd relation of filly tales, unworthy of notice; others revered it as the interpreter of primitive

* *An. Rev.*

tive philosophy; while a third set, weary of both these extremes, examined into the subject minutely, and endeavoured to shew, that the most ancient parts of this collection are of the ninth and tenth centuries after Christ, and the rest of a considerably later origin.

The language of the Edda, if we except one or two pieces, that bear evident marks of interpolation, has the most indisputable signs of high antiquity—*simplicity, brevity, energy*: its obscurities may be accounted for in the same manner as the obscurities of the Hebrews, or the ambiguities of Homer, by the lapse of ages, and the revolutions of society.

The poems of the Edda, are either genealogic, dramatic, or historic, and though often entangled by hopeless ambiguity, teem with such primitive simplicity, such grandeur of imagery, such boldness of manners, such energy of expression, as cannot fail to impress the reader with the genuine emotions of poetry.

The following translation of the *Vegtams Quitha*, or as it is called by Mr *Gray*, who imitated it in rhyme, the *Descent of Odin*, is done from a splendid edition of the Edda, lately published at Copenhagen: its own sublimity, and the celebrity of the imitation, must render its communication highly acceptable to every reader of taste, who is thus enabled to compare the rugged materials of the Skald, with the polished stanzas and arrangements of the poet. Mr Gray, from choice, or the want of a compleat copy, has omitted the five first stanzas.

I.

Deep to consult,
The gods all met;
To talk aloud,
The goddesses;
Debate the holy synod shook
On Ballder's late
Portentous dreams.

II.

By turbid slumbers tossed
The hero weened, he saw
Amid the gloom of night
His genius disappear:
The giants prostrate asked
The power of oracles,
If in the vision dim
A secret terrour lurked.

III.

The oracles replied
That Viller's * friend elect
The darling of all beings
Was summoned to his fate:
Anguish seized
Freya † and Suafne,
And the celestial host;
Firm they resolved to send

IV.

An embassy around
To nature's general race,
Their unison to ask
For Ballder's safety:
Unanimous they took
An universal oath
As Freya's self
Exacted it of each.

V.

The father of the slain
Suspected still a flaw—
The fatal absence
Of the destinies;
The gods he called anew,
And their decision asked;
But discord rent
The loud assembly.

VI.

Up rose Odin ‡
The sire of men,
O'er Sleipner strait
His saddle threw;

The

* Viller the son of Sifia, noted among the gods for beauty, archery, and skill in skating. † Or Frigga, the wife of Odin.

‡ If, in the progress of the ode, the motive of Odin's descent, the dream of Ballder had been again hinted at, the abrupt simplicity with which this stanza sets out, might account for Mr Gray's omitting the five preceding ones. *In medias res auditorem raperet.*

The road he took
Of Niflheim dark,
And met the whelp
Of murky Hell.

VII.

Gore him diftained
Athwart the breaft,
Wide flafh'd his jaw
Rent to devour;
Aloud he bark'd,
Amain he yawned,
And long howled round
The fire of fpells.

VIII.

On rode Odin
His thunder-fhaken path,
On to the roof
Of Hela high;
What fpot, before
The orient-door,
He knew full well
Volva was laid.

IX.

Turned to the north
The fire of exorcifm
Began to tune
The fong of death;
The eddying wand
The mighty fpell,
Unlocked to moans
The hell-bound voice.

X. *Volva.*

What wight is he,
To me unknown,
That wakes my fenfe
To trouble new?
Snowed o'er with fnows
By fhowers beat,
All drenched with dews
Dead lay I long.

XI. *Odin.*

Vegtamr * is my name,
The fon of Valtams, I;
Tell thou of Hell,
I can of light;
For whom is fpread
Yon radiant board?
That couch for whom
Flooded with gold?

XII. *Volva.*

For Ballder brews
Yon mead-crown'd cup,
Its pearly wave.
His the incumbent fhield;
The loud lament
Of Afa's fons.
Unwilling have I fpoke!
Difmifs me to my reft.

XIII. *Odin.*

Volva fay on,—
For I fhall afk
Till I know all;
This one I want to learn:
Beneath whofe arm
Shall Ballder fall?
What man fhall nip
His bloom of life?

XIV. *Volva.*

That towering thought,
Swells the proud breaft
Of Haudr homicide!
Fell Haudr nips
The blooming day
Of Odin's fon?
Unwilling have I fpoke,
Difmifs me to my reft!

XV. *Odin.*

Volva fay on;
What man fhall glut
Revenge for Haudr's rage?
And on the flaming pile
Lift Ballder's foe?

XVI. *Volva.*

Far in her weftern halls †
Rinda to Odin bears
A fon—who fhall not greet
His fecond night, or clear
His hand of blood, or comb
His locks, e'er on the pile
He hurl's flain Ballder's foe!
Unwilling have I fpoke,
Difmifs me to my reft.

XVII. *Odin.*

Volva, fay on!

What

* Vegtamr, Valtams, names of toil and war.

† Mr Gray follows the common explication of this perplexed paffage, and makes Haudr or Hother, the *brother* of Balldr. *Saxo*, whofe information cannot have been much inferior to *Snorro*'s, makes him the fon of Hodbrodd, Ballder's rival for Nanna, and the declared enemy of the Afi. Lib. iii. Hift. Dan. i.

What Virgins those *
That flow in tears,
And heavenward throw
Their snowy veils!
This answer yet
E'er thou repose.

XVIII. *Volva.*

Vegtamr, thou art not
As I weened!
Odin, thou art
The sire of men!

XIX. *Odin.*

Volva, thou art not!
Thou, wizard none!
The dam thou art
Of giant-cubs!

XX. *Volva.*

Ride home, Odin,
And triumph now!
And thus fare he
Who breaks my sleep,
Till Lock redeemed
His fetters bursts!
And twilight blasts
The eye of gods!

Natural History of the Land Salamander: *By the* Count de la Cepede †.

IT would appear that the more remote the objects of human curiosity are, the more man delights in attributing to them wonderful qualities, or at least in exaggerating those which beings, seldom thoroughly known, in reality possess. The imagination, as one may say, from time to time, requires to be stimulated with wonders; man wishes to give full scope to his belief, and he thinks he does not enjoy it with sufficient freedom when he subjects it to the laws of reason; he imagines that to use it he must carry it to the greatest excess, and does not consider himself as really master of it, unless when he capriciously refuses it to truth, or grants it to accounts of the most chimerical beings. Man cannot exercise this empire of fantasy but when the light of truth shines from a distance upon the objects of this arbitrary belief; but when space, time, or their nature separate them from us; and for this reason, among all classes of animals, there is perhaps none which has given rise to more fables than that of lizards. We have seen properties as absurd as imaginary ascribed to several species of oviparous quadrupedes; but human imagination seems to have surpassed itself in the salamander, which has been thought to be endowed with the most marvellous qualities. Whilst the hardest bodies cannot resist the violence of fire, the world have endeavoured to make us believe that a small lizard can not only withstand the flames, but even extinguish them. As agreeable fables readily gain belief, every one has been eager to adopt that of a small animal, so highly privileged, so superior to the most powerful agent in nature, and which could furnish so many objects of comparison to poetry, so many pretty emblems to love, and so many brilliant devices to valour. The ancients believed this property of the salamander, wishing that its origin might be as surprising as its power; and being desirous of realising the ingenious fictions of the poets, they have pretended that it owes its existence to the purest of elements, which cannot consume it, and they have called it the daughter of fire ‡, giving it however a body

* The oracles had told that Ballder might be redeemed from Hela, by what they knew could not happen, the unanimous intercession of the sex. Odin, after having received answers to every question that coincided with the decrees of fate, makes use of an artifice to come at the knowledge of Ballder's final destiny, by inventing a vision of female lamentation, and betrays himself by this trick to the prophetess, who saw only realities.

† *Lit. Mag.*

‡ Conrad Gesner de quadrupedibus oviparis, de salamandra, p. 79.

body of ice. The moderns have followed the ridiculous tales of the ancients, and as it is difficult to ſtop when one has paſſed the bounds of probability, ſome have gone ſo far as to think that the moſt violent fire could be extinguiſhed by the land ſalamander. Quacks ſold this ſmall lizard, affirming, that when thrown into the greateſt conflagration, it would check its progreſs. It was very neceſſary that philoſophers and naturaliſts ſhould take the trouble to prove, by facts, what reaſon alone might have demonſtrated; and it was not till after the light of ſcience was diffuſed abroad, that the world gave over believing in this wonderful property of the ſalamander.

This lizard, which is found in ſo many countries of the ancient world, and even in very high latitudes, has been, however, very little noticed, becauſe it is ſeldom ſeen out of its hole, and becauſe for a long time it has inſpired much terror. Even Ariſtotle ſpeaks of it as of an animal with which he was ſcarcely acquainted.

It is eaſy to diſtinguiſh this lizard from all others, by the particular conformation of its fore feet, which have only four toes, while thoſe behind have five. One of the largeſt of this ſpecies, preſerved in the King's cabinet, is ſeven inches five lines in length, from the end of the muzzle to the root of the tail, which is three inches eight lines. The ſkin does not appear to be covered with ſcales, but it is furniſhed with a number of excreſcences, like teats, containing a great many holes, ſeveral of which may be very plainly diſtinguiſhed by the naked eye, and through which a kind of milk oozes, that generally ſpreads itſelf in ſuch a manner as to form a tranſparent coat of varniſh above the ſkin of this oviparous quadruped, naturally dry.

The eyes of the ſalamander are placed in the upper part of the head, which is a little flatted; their orbit projects into the interior part of the palate, and is there almoſt ſurrounded by a row of very ſmall teeth, like thoſe in the jaw bones *: theſe teeth eſtabliſh a near relation between lizards and fiſhes; many ſpecies of which have alſo ſeveral teeth placed in the bottom of the mouth. The colour of this lizard is very dark; upon the belly it has a bluiſh caſt, intermixed with pretty large irregular yellow ſpots, which extend over the whole body, and even to the feet and eye-lids; ſome of theſe ſpots are beſprinkled with ſmall black ſpecks; and thoſe which are upon the back often touch, without interruption, and form two long yellow bands. From the figure of theſe ſpots, the ſalamander has got the name of the *ſtellio*, as well as the green lizard, or real ſtellio, and the geckotte, or *lacerta mauritanica*. The colour of the land ſalamander muſt, however, be ſubject to vary; and it appears that ſome are found in the marſhy foreſts of Germany, which are quite black above and yellow below †. To this variety we muſt refer the black ſalamander, found by Mr Laurenti, in the Alps, which he conſidered as a diſtinct ſpecies, and which appeared to me to have too near a reſemblance to the common ſalamander to be ſeparated from it ‡.

The tail, which is almoſt cylindrical, appears to be ſeparated into different diviſions, by circular rings compoſed of a very ſoft ſubſtance.

The land ſalamander has no ribs—neither have frogs, to which it has a great reſemblance in the general form of the anterior part of its body. When touched, it ſuddenly covers itſelf with that kind of coat of which we have ſpoken; and it can alſo very rapidly change its ſkin from a ſtate of humidity to a ſtate of dryneſs. The milk which

* Memoirs reſpecting the Hiſtory of Animals, article Salamander.

† Matthiolus.

‡ *Salamandra atra* Laurenti Specimen Medicum, Viennæ, 1768, p. 149.

which iſſues from the ſmall holes in its ſurface is very acrid; when put upon the tongue, one feels as it were a kind of ſcar at the part which it touched. This milk, which is conſidered as an excellent ſubſtance for taking off hair, has ſome reſemblance to that which diſtils from thoſe plants called eſula and euphorbium. When the ſalamander is cruſhed, or when it is only preſſed, it exhales a bad ſmell, which is peculiar to it.

Land ſalamanders are fond of cold damp places, thick ſhades, tufted woods, or high mountains, and the banks of ſtreams that run through meadows; they ſometimes retire in great numbers to hollow trees, hedges, and below old rotten ſtumps; and they paſs the winter in places of high latitude, in a kind of borrows, where they are found collected, ſeveral of them being joined and twiſted together. The ſalamander being deſtitute of claws, having only four toes on each of the fore feet, and no advantage of conformation making up its deficiencies, its manner of living muſt, as is indeed the caſe, be very different from that of other lizards. It walks very ſlowly; far from being able to climb trees with rapidity, it often appears to drag itſelf with great difficulty along the ſurface of the earth. It ſeldom goes far from the place of ſhelter which it has fixed on; it paſſes its life under the earth, often at the bottom of old walls during ſummer; it dreads the heat of the ſun, which would dry it, and it is commonly only when rain is about to fall, that it comes forth from its ſecret aſylum, as if by a kind of neceſſity, to bathe itſelf, and to imbibe an element to which it is analogous. Perhaps it finds then with greateſt facility thoſe inſects upon which it feeds. It lives upon flies, beetles, ſnails, and earth worms; when it repoſes, it rolls up its body in ſeveral folds like ſerpents. It can remain ſome time in the water without danger, and it caſts a very thin pellicle of a greeniſh grey colour. Salamanders have even been kept more than ſix months in the water of a well, without giving them any food; care only was taken to change the water often.

It has been remarked, that every time a land ſalamander is plunged into the water, it attempts to raiſe its noſtrils above the ſurface, as if to ſeek for air, which is a new proof of the need that all oviparous quadrupeds have to breathe, during the time they are not in a ſtate of torpor. The land ſalamander has apparently no ears, and in this it reſembles ſerpents. It has even been pretended, that it does not hear, and on this account, it has got the name of *ſourd*, in ſome provinces of France. This is very probable, as it has never been heard to utter any cry, and ſilence in general is coupled with deafneſs.

Having then perhaps one ſenſe leſs than other animals, and being deprived of the faculty of communicating its ſenſations to thoſe of the ſame ſpecies, even by imperfect ſounds, it muſt be reduced to a much inferior of inſtinct; it is therefore very ſtupid, and not bold, as has been reported; it does not brave danger, as is pretended, but it does not perceive it. Whatever geſtures one makes to frighten it, it always advances without turning aſide; however, as no animal is deprived of that ſentiment neceſſary for its preſervation, it ſuddenly compreſſes its ſkin, as is ſaid, when tormented, and ſpurts forth upon thoſe who attack it that corroſive milk which is under it. If beat, it begins to raiſe its tail; afterwards it becomes motionleſs, as if ſtunned by a kind of paralytic ſtroke, for we muſt not, with ſome naturaliſts, aſcribe to an animal ſo devoid of inſtinct, ſo much art and cunning as to counterfeit death. In ſhort, it is difficult to kill it; but when dipped in vinegar, or ſurrounded with ſalt reduced to powder, it expires in

in convulsions, as is the case with several other lizards and worms.

It seems one cannot allow a being a chimerical quality, without refusing it at the same time a real property. The cold salamander has been considered as an animal endued with the miraculous power of resisting and even of extinguishing fire, but at the same time it has been debased as much as elevated by this singular property. It has been made the most fatal of animals; the ancients, and even Pliny, have devoted it to a kind of anathema by affirming that its poison is the most dangerous of all. They have written that infecting with its poison almost all the vegetables of a large country, it might cause the destruction of *whole nations*. The moderns also for a long time believed the salamander to be very poisonous; they have said, that its bite is mortal, like that of the viper; they have sought out and prescribed remedies for it; but they have at length had recourse to observations, by which they ought to have begun. The famous Bacon wished naturalists would endeavour to ascertain the truth respecting the poison of the salamander. Gesner proved by experiments, that it did not bite, whatever means were used to irritate it, and Wurfbainus shewed that it might safely be touched, and that one might without danger drink the water of those wells which it inhabited. Mr De Maupertuis studied also the nature of this lizard. In making researches to discover what might be its pretended poison, he demonstrated experimentally, that fire acted upon the salamander in the same manner as upon all other animals. He remarked that it was scarcely upon the fire, when it appeared to be covered with the drops of its milk, which rarified by the heat, issued through all the pores of its skin, but in greater quantity from the head and dugs, and that it immediately became hard. It is needless to say, that this milk is not sufficiently abundant to extinguish even the smallest fire.

Mr de Maupertuis, in the course of his experiments, in vain irritated several Salamanders, none of them ever opened its mouth; he was obliged to open it by force.

As the teeth of this lizard are very small, it was very difficult to find an animal with a skin sufficiently fine to be penetrated by them; he tried without success to force them into the flesh of a chicken stripped of its feathers; he in vain pressed them against the skin, they were displaced, but they could not enter. He, however, made a salamander bite the thigh of a chicken, after he had taken off a small part of the skin. He made salamanders newly caught, bite also the tongue and lips of a dog, as well as the tongue of a turkey, but none of these animals received the least injury. Mr De Maupertuis afterwards made a dog and a turkey swallow salamanders whole, or cut into pieces, and yet neither of them appeared to be sensible of the least uneasiness.

Mr Laurenti since made experiments with the same view; he forced grey lizards to swallow the milk proceeding from the salamander, and they died very suddenly. The milk, therefore, of the salamander taken internally, may hurt, and even be fatal to certain animals, especially those which are small, but it does not appear to be hurtful to large animals.

It was long believed that the salamander was of no sex, and that each individual had the power of engendering its like, as several species of worms. This is not the most absurd fable, which has been imagined with respect to the salamander; but if the manner in which they come into the world is not so marvellous as has been written, it is remarkable in this that it differs from that in which all other lizards are brought forth, as it is analogous to that

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in which the chalcide and the feps, as well as vipers, and feveral kinds of ferpents, are produced. On this account the falamander merits the attention of naturalifts, much more than on account of the falfe and brilliant reputation which it has fo long enjoyed. Mr De Maupertuis, having opened fome falamanders, found eggs in them, and at the fame time, fome young perfectly formed; the eggs were divided into two long bunches like grapes, and the young were enclofed in two tranfparent bags; they were equally well formed as the old ones, and much more active. The falamander, therefore, brings forth young from an egg hatched in its belly, as the viper. But fome have written, that, like the aquatic falamander, it lays elliptic eggs, from which are hatched young falamanders, under the form of tadpoles. We have often verified the firft fact, which has been well known for fome time, but we have not had an opportunity of proving the fecond. It would be matter of fome importance to afcertain that the fame quadrupede produces its young in fome meafure two different ways; that there are eggs which the female lays, and others, the fœtus of which comes forth in the belly of the falamander, to remain afterwards enclofed with other fœtufes in a kind of tranfparent membrane, until the moment in which it is brought into the world. Were this the cafe, it would be neceffary to diffect falamanders at different periods very near one another, from the time of their coupling, until that when they bring forth their young; one might carefully trace the fucceffive increafe of the young till they were perfectly formed, and compare them with the growth of thofe which are hatched from the egg, out of the mother's belly, &c. However this may be, the female falamander brings forth young perfectly formed, and her fecundity is very great; naturalifts have long written, that fhe has forty or fifty at one time, and Mr De Maupertuis found 42 young ones in the body of a female falamander, and 54 in another.

The young falamanders are generally of a black colour, almoft without fpots, and this colour they preferve fometimes during their whole lives in certain countries, where they have been taken for a diftinct fpecies, as we have faid. Mr Tumberg has given, in the memoirs of the Academy of Sweden, the defcription of a lizard, which he calls the *Japanefe lizard*, and which appears not to differ from our falamander, but in the arrangement of its colours. This animal is almoft black, with feveral whitifh and irregular fpots, both on the upper part of the body, and below the paws; on the back there is a ftrip of dirty white, which becomes narrower to the point of the tail. This whitifh ftripe is interfperfed with very fmall fpecks which form the diftinguifhing characteriftic of our land falamander. We are of opinion therefore, that we may confider this Japanefe lizard, defcribed by Mr Tumberg, as a variety of the fpecies of our land falamander, modified a little, perhaps, by the climate of Japan. It is in the largeft ifland of that empire, named *Niphon*, that this variety is found. It inhabits the mountains there and rocky places, which indicates that its nature is like that of our land falamander, and confirms our conjectures refpecting the identity of the fpecies of thefe two animals. The Japanefe attribute to it the fame properties with which the fcinque has been long thought to be endowed, and which in Europe have been attributed alfo to the flat-tailed falamander; they confider it as a powerful ftimulant, and a very active remedy, and on this account, in the neighbourhood of Jedo, a number of thefe Japanefe falamanders may be feen dried, hanging from the ceiling of the fhops.

An account of a new Journey to the Top *of the* Alps : *By* Mr De Sauſſure.

PHILOSOPHERS and Naturaliſts who propoſe to viſit the tops of high mountains, generally take their meaſures in ſuch a manner as to arrive there about the middle of the day, and when they have reached the intended ſpot, are in too great haſte to make their obſervations, that they may be able to deſcend before night. Hence it happens that they always viſit great eminences almoſt about the ſame hours, and on that account cannot form a juſt idea of the ſtate of the atmoſphere at other times of the day, and eſpecially during the night.

It appeared to me, therefore, a matter of importance to ſupply this deficiency in our atmoſpherical knowledge, by remaining long enough upon ſome great eminence to determine the daily variation of meteorological inſtruments; the barometer, thermometer, hygrometer, electrometer, &c. and to wait for proper opportunities of obſerving the origin of different meteors, ſuch as rain, wind, and ſtorms.

This deſire was encreaſed by that of attempting various experiments, which I had reſolved to make upon Mount Blanc; but want of time, and the uneaſineſs I felt from the rarity of the air, prevented me from accompliſhing this part of my deſign.

The difficulty was to find a convenient ſituation. I was deſirous that it might have eighteen hundred toiſes of elevation, and that it might be open on all ſides, in order that the wind, and all other meteors, might act in full liberty. I might eaſily have found ſome ſummit covered with ſnow in which all theſe properties would have been united; but it would not have been practicable to raiſe a durable place of ſhelter upon the ſnow, and to make proper obſervations, both on account of the inſtability of the inſtruments, and of the cold and moiſtneſs of the atmoſphere.

It was very difficult to find upon the Alps, at ſo great a height, a rock free from ſnow, acceſſible at the ſame time, and large enough to contain a kind of habitation. Mr Exchaquet, whom I conſulted upon this deſign, told me, that upon the route newly diſcover d, which conducts from Chamouni to Couemayeur, in paſſing the Tacul, I would find rocks ſuch as I wiſhed for. Truſting to his information, I began, laſt ſpring, to make preparation for this expedition; and in the beginning of June I went with my ſon to Chamouni, to wait for fine weather, and to take advantage of the moment when it ſhould appear. I carried with me two ſmall tents; but I was deſirous to have beſides theſe a ſmall hut conſtructed of ſtone. Several ſeparate places of ſhelter were requiſite, not only for ourſelves and our guides, but becauſe it was neceſſary to keep the magnetometer and the variation compaſs apart one from the other, that they might not reciprocally influence each other's variation. I therefore ſent people before to erect a hut of that kind, and when it was finiſhed, and the weather appeared to be ſettled and fine, we departed from Chamouni. The firſt night, July the 2d, we ſlept at *Tacul*, which is a plain covered with turf, upon the brink of a ſmall lake, contained between the extremity of the glacier, called the *glacier des bois*, and the bottom of a rock, known by the name of the mountain of *Tacul*. Next morning we departed thence, at half after five, and arrived at our hut about half an hour after twelve. To this place I gave the name of the Giant's Neck, becauſe it is really at the entrance of the neck that one begins to deſcend towards Courmayeur, and becauſe the moſt remarkable mountain in the neighbourhood, and that which hangs over this neck, is called the Giant, a high and ſteep ſummit which

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can be diſtinguiſhed very plainly from the banks of our lake.

In going from Tacul towards the Giant's Neck, we could not paſs by the glacier of Trelaporte, which our guides had croſſed the year before. As the clefts of this glacier were quite open and free from ſnow, ſo as to render it entirely inacceſſible, we were under the neceſſity of purſuing our route by the foot of a lofty ſummit, called *la Noire*, paſſing along the edges of very ſteep ſheets of ſnow, on the borders of which were many fiſſures. Our guides aſſured us, that this paſſage is much more dangerous than that by which they had gone the year before; I however, truſt very little to aſſertions of this kind, becauſe the preſent danger always appears greater than that which is paſt, and becauſe theſe people think to flatter ſtrangers, by telling them that they have eſcaped great perils. It is, however, certain, that this paſſage of *la Noire* is very dangerous, and as it froze during the night, it would have been impoſſible to paſs hard ſteep ſheets of ſnow, had not our people gone and marked out a path the evening before, while the ſnow was ſoftened by the heat of the ſun.

We were expoſed afterwards, as at Mount Blanc, to the danger of fiſſures concealed by a very thin covering of ſnow; theſe fiſſures became ſmaller and leſs frequent towards the top of the mountain, and we were flattering ourſelves with the hopes of getting clear of them, when all of a ſudden we heard ſome one cry out, ropes, ropes. Theſe were indeed wanted to draw up from the bottom of the glacier, Alexis Balmar, one of the people who carried our baggage, and who being about an hundred paces before us, had ſuddenly diſappeared from amidſt his companions, having fallen into a large fiſſure about ſixty feet deep. Very luckily he was ſtopped about half way down, that is to ſay, at the depth of thirty feet, by a large maſs of ſnow which ſtuck in the fiſſure. As he fell upon the ſnow, he received no injury, but a few ſcratches in the face. His beſt friend, P. J. Favret, immediately made himſelf faſt to a rope, by which he was let down, and having firſt ſent up the load, the two men were drawn up afterwards. Balmar, when he got out, appeared to be a little pale, but he ſhewed no ſigns of emotion; he took upon his ſhoulder our matraſſes, which compoſed his load, and purſued his way, as if nothing had happened.

The moment of our arrival at the end of our journey was not, as is uſually the caſe, a moment of ſatisfaction. I ſoon ſaw, and not without ſome degree of chagrin, on comparing the ſituation of our hut, with other eminences which I knew, that its elevation was not eighteen hundred toiſes as I expected. I found it alſo to be too ſmall, it was only ſix feet ſquare; it was ſo low that one could ſcarcely ſtand upright in it, and the ſtones of which it was conſtructed, were ſo badly joined that the ſnow found a paſſage between them, and had even half filled it. The ridge of rocks upon which we were to erect our tents, and upon the angular point of which ſtood our hut, was encloſed by two glaciers extremely narrow and unequal, and bordered upon every ſide with ſteep ſheets of ſnow, which one might almoſt call precipices. For a habitation of ſeveral days, this ſituation preſented nothing agreeable; but the proſpect from it was truly magnificent. Towards Italy, we had an immenſe extent of horizon, compoſed of ſeveral chains of mountains, partly covered with ſnow, between which, however, we diſcovered ſome foreſts and cultivated valleys. Towards Savoy, Mount Blanc, the Giant, and the intermediate ſummits exhibited a moſt noble view, equally variegated and intereſting.

The people who had carried our baggage and inſtruments, ſet out immediately to return to Chamouni; but I kept, beſides my own ſervant, four of the beſt guides to aſſiſt us in our operations,

operations, and to go alternately to fetch coals and provisions from Courmayeur.

After they had reposed and refreshed themselves, I desired them to begin, and make the arrangements necessary for my settlement; but some remains of their fatigue, and a dread of the inconveniences which they were likely to endure in such an abode, greatly weakened their strength and damped their courage; however, towards evening, when they began to feel the cold, they were sensible that it was time for them to think of providing a place of shelter against night; they began therefore to arrange the large loose blocks of granite detached from the rock upon which we had taken up our abode, and to erect tents; for the hut was uninhabitable, until they had cut with pick-axes, and carried away a sheet of ice, which they found below the snow, with which it was half filled.

As for myself, I first began to inspect my instruments with those which required no preparation; but I was much disappointed to find my barometers deranged; the drought which had prevailed after our departure from Chamouni, had diminished the diameter of the cork which kept in the mercury, so that it ran out very fast from both; but as the air had got in, I repaired one of them, by employing a remedy pointed out by the cause of the evil. I kept it continually wrapt up in wet cloths, and the moisture having made the cork expand, it then retained the mercury.

Though our accommodation was extremely bad, we slept very soundly, which restored us to our full vigour and activity. In the morning we began with great spirit to free our hut from ice, and to raise it so that we could stand upright in it. We constructed two pedestals for the magnetometer, the variation compass, and the board upon which we intended to trace out a meridian line, and began to make some observations. Our guides, who foresaw a change of weather, exerted themselves with much assiduity to fix our tents properly, which was a very difficult operation, upon a projecting rock, narrower than our tents, being besides unequal in breadth, and composed of large incoherent masses.

It was extremely fortunate for us that we took all these precautions, for in the night following that between the fourth and the fifth of July, we were attacked by one of the most furious storms that I ever remember to have seen. About one in the morning, the wind sprung up from the south-west, and blew with so much violence, that I every moment expected it would have carried away the stone hut, in which I and my son lay. In this wind there was something singular; it was periodically interrupted by intervals perfectly calm, during which we heard it bellowing below us, in the bottom of the valley called *l'Alee Blanche*, whilst there was not the least breath of air around our hut. Those calms, however, were followed by sudden gusts, the violence of which was inexpressible; they resembled repeated discharges of artillery, and we even felt the mountain shake under our matrass. The wind easily found a passage between the joinings of the stones; it once raised up the clothes which covered me, and made me imagine that I was froze from head to foot. About the break of day, it became a little calm; but it soon resumed its former violence, accompanied with snow, which made its way into every part of our hut. We then took shelter in one of our tents, which defended us better. We found there that our guides were obliged to hold the poles continually, lest the force of the wind should overturn them, and sweep them away together with the tent. About seven in the morning the storm was accompanied also with hail and claps of thunder, which succeeded without interruption, one of which was so near us, that we distinctly

diſtinctly heard an electric ſpark, which with a ſnapping noiſe glided along the wet canvas that covered our tent exactly behind the place where my ſon lay. The air was ſo filled with electricity, that as ſoon as I had placed without the tent, the point only of the conductor of my electrometer, the balls diverged as much as the threads would permit them, and almoſt at every clap of thunder, the electricity, from being poſitive, became negative, or from being negative, poſitive. To convey a proper idea of the violence of the wind, it will be neceſſary only to obſerve, that our guides being twice deſirous of fetching ſome proviſions from the other tent, choſe for that purpoſe thoſe intervals when the wind ſeemed to be a little abated; but about half way, though the diſtance from the one tent to the other was not above ſixteen or ſeventeen paces, they were attacked by ſuch a furious guſt, that, to ſave themſelves from being carried over the precipice, they were obliged to cling to a rock which was luckily in their way, where they remained two or three minutes with their clothes blown over their heads, and expoſed to a dreadful ſhower of hail, before they could venture to quit their hold.

About noon the ſky became clear, and Mr Exchaquet, who the evening before had come with four guides to pay us a viſit, and who had ſhared with us the ſeverity of the night and of the ſtorm in the morning, embraced that opportunity of favourable weather to return to Courmayeur.

As for us we were very well ſatiſfied to find that with our wretched ſhelter we had been able to reſiſt the elements united, and being firmly perſuaded that it was almoſt impoſſible we ſhould meet with worſe weather, we found ourſelves quite ſecure againſt the fear of thoſe ſtorms, which had been repreſented to us as very dangerous upon ſuch eminences. We continued, therefore, with great ardour to make every diſpoſition neceſſary for obſervations; and we began next morning a regular and uninterrupted ſeries. When the weather was not too bad, my ſon aroſe at four in the morning to commence his meteorological obſervations. I did not get up till ſeven: but to make amends, I watched till midnight, while my ſon went to bed at ten. In the day time each of us had his ſettled occupations.

This active manner of life made the time paſs with the greateſt rapidity; but we ſuffered much from the cold during bad weather, and in the greater part of the evenings, even when the days had been fine. Every evening almoſt about five o'clock a wind aroſe which blew from declivities covered with ſnow that hung over us to the north and eaſt. This wind, often accompanied with ſnow or hail, was prodigiouſly cold, and incommoded us much. The warmeſt clothes, even furs, could not ſecure us from it. We could not light a fire in our ſmall tents, and our wretched huts, the apertures of which admitted the light, could not be made warm by the fire of our ſmall ſtoves; the air was ſo much rarified, that the coals burnt but very feebly, even when we uſed a pair of bellows, and if we at length were able to warm our feet and the lower part of our legs, our bodies always remained cold on account of the wind which penetrated our habitation. During theſe moments we leſs regretted that we were at the elevation of 1763 toiſes above the level of the ſea; for higher the cold would have been much more ſevere: beſides we comforted ourſelves when we reflected that we were 180 toiſes higher than the ſummit of Buet, which was reckoned ſome years ago the higheſt acceſſible part of the Alps.

About ten in the evening, when the wind became calm, having ſuffered my ſon to go to ſleep in the hut, I repaired to the tent where my compaſs was, and having wrapped myſelf up in my furs, and put a warm ſtone under my feet, I began to write out a fair copy of

of the obſervations which I had made in the courſe of my journey. I occaſionally went out to obſerve my inſtruments and the ſtate of the heavens, which appeared then for the moſt part perfectly pure and ſerene. After theſe two hour's retirement and contemplation, which were exceedingly pleaſant, I went to reſt in the hut upon a ſmall matraſs, ſpread out on the ground near that of my ſon, where I enjoyed a much ſounder ſleep than ever I did in my own bed when at home.

The ſixth and laſt evening which we paſſed upon the Giant's Neck was moſt delightful and charming. It appeared as if theſe lofty ſummits wiſhed that we ſhould quit them with regret. The ſharp wind which had rendered the greater part of the evenings ſo cold, did not then blow: the ſummits which hung over us, and the ſnow which lay between them, were tinged with the moſt beautiful ſhades of roſe-colour and crimſon; the whole horizon of Italy ſeemed to be edged with a broad purple border, while the full moon, riſing majeſtically above this border, and appearing of a deep red colour, ſtill added to the grandeur of this magnificent ſcene. The atmoſphere which ſurrounded us, had the ſame purity and perfect ſerenity, as Homer aſſigns to that of Olympus; but the valleys, filled with vapours which had been there condenſed, appeared to be the abode of obſcurity and darkneſs.

But how ſhall I deſcribe the night which ſucceeded that beautiful evening, when, after the twilight, the brilliant moon from the heavens diffuſed floods of ſilver light over the vaſt circumference of ſnow and rocks which ſurrounded our ſmall habitation? What an aſtoniſhing and delightful ſpectacle did the ſheets of ſnow and ice, the ſplendour of which is inſupportable when the ſun ſhines, exhibit, by reflecting the mild rays of the lamp of night! What a magnificent contraſt did the duſky rocks of granite, cut out by the hand of nature with ſo much boldneſs, form in the midſt of the brilliant ſnow! What opportunity for meditation! For how many pains and privations do not ſuch moments indemnify us! The ſoul is elevated, the mind ſeems to be enlarged, and amidſt that majeſtic ſilence we think we hear the voice of nature, and that we are admitted to behold her moſt ſecret operations. The next morning, July the 19th, as we had finiſhed our intended experiments and obſervations, we quitted our ſtation, and deſcended to Courmayeur. The firſt part of the deſcent, which is over incoherent rocks, is very ſteep and laborious, but attended with no danger, and in this reſpect it has no kind of reſemblance to that of *l'Aiguille-du-Goute*, to which it has been compared. At the bottom of theſe rocks you enter ſome meadows, and below theſe you find woods, and afterwards cultivated fields, through which you arrive at Courmayeur. In all this rout there is no difficulty. We, however, ſuffered much there on account of the heat, which to us, who had come from a cold climate, to which we had been for ſome days habituated, appeared to be inſupportable; but we ſuffered more from hunger, as our ſtock of proviſions which we had reſerved for this ſmall journey, diſappeared during the night. We ſtrongly ſuſpected that ſome of our guides had made free with them, not ſo much for their value, but that we might be ſooner induced to return. They were much tired with remaining upon the Giant's Neck; and our admiration of the laſt evening, notwithſtanding the impatience of my ſon, made them fear that we wiſhed to prolong our ſtay. The heat and want of ſuſtenance had deprived me of my ſtrength, threatened to bring on fainting, and affected my head ſo much that I could not find words ſufficient to expreſs my thoughts. My ſon and my domeſtic ſuffered alſo, but in a much leſs degree. Though my weakneſs

ness retarded our progress, and by these means kept me at a distance from relief, we at length arrived about seven in the evening at the village of Entreve, where we found the first houses in which we could get any thing to eat. After a day's repose at Courmayeur, which perfectly re-established me, we again set out, and passing thro' Col-Ferret to Martigny, and thence to Chamouni; where we staid three days to make some experiments, and compare them with those made upon the Giant's Neck, we returned to Geneva the end of July.

Remarks on the Ecclesiastical State, and the Inhabitants of Rome: *By the* Abbè Dupaty*.

AT Rome, properly speaking, there are but three classes of persons: the pope, the clergy, and the people.

All the clergy are hurried away by one universal attraction, towards the supreme dignities, not excepting even the Tiara.

All who are not clergy, remain in their original station: Princes, marquisses, advocates, farmers, artists, merchants, servants, and beggars; these are the people.

The nobility at Rome possess little more than the importance and splendour they derive from the antiquity of their families; they do not here, as in other countries, load the people with the accessary and enormous weight of claiming every office or employment in aspiring to which they may rival each other, nor have they that inconceivable multitude of opportunities for oppression.

All honour and power are united in the clergy; and it is from connections more or less intimate, with the more or less considerable members of that body, that all secondary importance and subaltern authority flow.

The greatest portion of wealth is possessed by them; the price of that heaven they formerly put up to sale.

Of the six and thirty thousand houses Rome is estimated to contain, twenty thousand are possessed in mortmain. For a number of ages, mortmain has been continually inheriting, and having no heirs, must in the end acquire, that is to say, usurp all property.

The territorial wealth is very inconsiderable in the ecclesiastical state, and certainly would not suffice to maintain its inhabitants. But Rome has her bulls, her ceremonies, her ruins; she has her name, which is the richest of all her ruins.

Rome therefore, is unable to export any part of her productions, or manufactures, to the general market of Europe; she consumes them: She can only pay Europe, in short, with gold, for indulgences have no longer currency.

Not but this city, if agriculture and the arts were more flourishing, might also become commercial, but these are in a most deplorable state.

Take the following as a specimen of the manner in which the culture of the little land, that is cultivated in the environs of Rome, is conducted.

At the seasons for tillage and harvest, a number of persons repair to a public place, near Rome, with one, two, or three hundred pair of oxen: the landowners then appear, hire a certain number of them, and send them to their estates, frequently at the distance of eight or ten miles. There, in the course of a single day, they finish all their

* *Travels through Italy.*

their labours of the season. In one and the same day, they plow, sow, and in the same manner, at the proper season, reap and get in their harvest in one day: these works of agriculture resemble so many *coups de main*, to be performed in the country.

The soil, however, is eager to produce. Very little art and labour would obtain every species of grain or fruit, from the salts of that earth, and the rays of that sun, which now generate nothing but distempers.

The number of inhabitants at Rome is estimated at one hundred and seventy thousand souls.

They reckon near ten thousand mendicants or poor.

Menial servants are still more numerous.

The secular or regular clergy may be estimated at a sixth part of the whole.

Such is the state of professional celibacy, that upwards of five women are reckoned to one man: This may, perhaps, serve to enable us to judge of the libertinism of Rome.

The cultivation of the mind is here as much neglected as that of the earth; the mind therefore hardly produces any thing at Rome but jurisprudence, medicine, theology, and sonnets.

The best education of the girls is to have received none.

The multitude at Rome possess little reason, a tolerable share of wit, and a great deal of imagination: Years beget habits here, but do not bestow experience.

I remark only the leading features.

Every body knows that the tiara is placed on the pope's head by election.

There is not a sovereign in Europe whose authority is less limited by the laws. His word admits of no contradiction. His commands form at the same time a civil law and a religious precept: head of the church and of the state; his will is sanctioned at once by the dread of the executioner and the devil.

But the pope's authority at Rome is far from possessing all its plenitude of power; it does not enjoy half of it.

The temporal power is limited to a very moderate revenue; it is only supported by a handful of soldiers, who form only a ridiculous representation of military state; a band of sbirres, despised and detested by the people, and who consequently are infamous; a shadow of police exercised by the curates; and very numerous tribunals, which consequently have little weight.

These resources, which are to maintain the temporal power, already so feeble in themselves, are still further weakened by deficiencies and abuses.

With respect to the administration of the finances, there is neither judgment or œconomy in the application of the public money, and scarcely any responsibility. The administration of the finances therefore is a scene of fraud and rapine.

As for the military power; the shadow of an army obeys the shadow of a commander. There is neither military spirit, nor discipline. The sbirres are privileged robbers, who wage war with robbers who are not privileged. Their chief is obliged to maintain a coach and two horses for the cardinal vicar. This single word contains a volume.

The tribunals are composed of prelates, who, in general, are ignorant of the laws, and employ themselves in various different ways. But they have secretaries.

The *Rotta*, however, which is a tribunal of appeal, is respectable. It is obliged to assign and publish immediately the motives for its sentences, but its decisions are not final; they may continually be set aside; a word from the pope is sufficient; and this word is to be obtained or purchased.

As for the penal power, the multitude of asylums, of which there are near seven hundred in Rome, the inability or the connivance of the sbirres, the power and protection of individuals, the little severity used in, and the want of a proper guard for the gallies, reduce it to a mere bugbear.

I forgot to observe that every house, on which a cardinal has placed his arms, becomes a place of refuge for creditors against judicial executions. These asylums are very numerous; some cardinals make a traffic of them. Impunity is a revenue at Rome.

The power derived from religion has preserved rather more authority: but it has greatly suffered by three causes equally powerful, the multitude of indulgences, the facility of obtaining absolutions, and habit.

From this picture of the government of Rome, it should seem as if Rome, as a political state, must be on the brink of ruin; as a social state, be continually agitated by a thousand disorders; and as a civil state, become a prey to every kind of wretchedness; but true it is, however incredible, that Rome is, perhaps, as a political state, the most secure; as a social state, the most peaceable; and as a civil state, the least wretched of almost any with which we are acquainted.

The tranquillity which reigns at Rome may be easily explained.

Though the pope is in possession of absolute power, he is not much in the way of abusing it: he is not born a prince; the crown is to him the gift of good fortune, an accessory of the tiara; one of the functions of the papacy, a deposit rather than a property; and in general, he is old: besides, that no man instantaneously acquires new wants, or habits, talents, or ideas: these can only be gained, with difficulty, and at a certain age.

Another powerful reason still further restrains the popes, who might be tempted to become oppressors: to make themselves respected as pontiffs, they must be beloved as kings.

Nor have the higher clergy any interest in disturbing the established order.

The pope's authority, mild and light in itself, hardly weighs at all on them.

The persuasion, that it is sacred, necessary, and in duration but momentary, likewise contributes greatly to its support.

Ambition, in a word, and the hope of exercising some portion of this authority in the present moment, and of exercising it one day entirely, compleatly removes from it all its pressure, leaving it all its weight.

Nothing is more rare, at Rome, than daring robberies, house-breaking, and popular commotions; but assassinations are frequent.

These never occasion either horror or disturbance; the inhabitants of Rome cooly see them committed before their eyes, and relate them with the same indifference. The murderer is not looked upon as either wicked, dangerous, or infamous. No doubt, say they, he has had provocation.

The revenge of the stiletto is the duel of the populace.

It is looked upon as a part of the administration of justice, left in the hands of the people. Besides that, it seldom exceeds that vengeance which is moderated even by the dread of vengeance.

Mendicity, that degeneration of poverty, the precarious state of which, in every other country, is the ordinary source of robberies, has not that inconvenience at Rome; here it is a certain profession. There is not a beggar but is fed by his mendicity, or to whom it does not furnish, not only a present, but the security of a future subsistence.

A man, a woman, or a child have only to hang out a few rags in the streets of Rome, or expose a sore, they

nstantly procure victuals. The pity of the Romans never reasons; and what does a mendicant require more? Degraded either by misery, infirmities, or idleness, animal life suffices for him; when he enjoys that he is happy—— as his dog.

There are more beggars at Rome than any where; they swarm on all sides; pilgrimages leave there a great number.

Every place there is open to them; they are permitted to seek every where for charity, to pursue it to all places; they enter the coffee-houses, and go out of them like domestic animals. Delicacy suffers and murmurs at this; but humanity remonstrates, they are men.

Another reason which prevents the frequency of private or public robberies, is the absence of luxury, and especially of the most contagious species of it, that shameless luxury that dazzles and excites the emulation of vanity.

Superfluity has been the cause of the commission of more crimes than necessity.

At Rome, therefore, misery, indolence, ambition, and the desire of woman do not excite to rob.

I say, the desire of the sex; for the climate and the manners of the country furnish women enough here, even for caprice.

Private debauchery is so great, that public debauchery is a stranger; it is unnecessary: thus, in certain countries, poverty is so general that there are no beggars.

You have seen that the power of the pope cannot lie very heavy on the people; and that of the great is still less oppressive.

Throughout all the intercourse of the great with the great, and of the great with their inferiors, there reigns a certain ease, politeness, and universal flattery; this proceeds from the opportunities fortune here enjoys of exercising all her caprices, and this generally, in secret and in silence, by the means of valets, monks, secretaries, or women. Nobody therefore is perfectly acquainted with whom he has to do, the consequence of the individual with whom he treats, the influence of the passer by whom he salutes. To-morrow, perhaps, that poor priest will be a prelate; that other poor-devil, the valet or secretary of some man in place. In this state of doubt, every body is civil to every body; and from this uncertainty, they continually lavish mutual good wishes, smiles of protection, and friendly squeezes of the hand.

The Romans have a wonderful facility of changing faces, or rather, they have no occasion to change them; the best masks in the world are the Italian visages; their pantomime however *outrés* every thing, gestures, words, and looks; so that making it too expressive, they render it insignificant. The Italians, indeed, in their dealings with each other, never give any credit to the countenance, the language, nor even the accent; they believe only in the event.

Would you wish to know the behaviour of a cardinal when he visits another, especially when the latter is in place?—On entering the first antichamber, where the servants are, he makes a bow; in the second, where the valets de chambre sit, he smiles; in the third, where the cardinal's gentlemen stay, he takes them by the hand; in the fourth, where he finds the introducer, he bows, he smiles, he takes him by the hand, and chats with him; at length, he enters the apartment of his colleague: in appearance, you see two friends embracing each other; but they are, in fact, two rivals, who would cut each other's throat.

None of their physical wants have any superfluity, but they are all supplied with what is necessary, and that which is necessary is very trifling.

Hunger is not violent, one daily repast

repaſt ſuffices; and fruits, vegetables, ſome fiſh, and a little meat, ſuffice for this one repaſt.

Thirſt demands and conſumes very little wine, but a great quantity of lemons and of ice.

As for clothing, the climate and the faſhion reduce this to a mere covering: every body not naked is clothed.

The wants of the ſexes find aliment in cicisbeiſm, facility of gratification in the manners, and ſufficient indulgence in the religion of the country.

From dinner they paſs to ſleep, which laſts till ſix in the evening; they then do nothing, or are employed in trifles which amount to nothing. Night arrives; all buſineſs is ſuſpended, all the ſhops are ſhut up; men, women, and girls, every body takes flight till three in the morning; they repair to the public walks, to the *Corſo*; to converſation in coteries; to collations in taverns: Even the moſt ſerious characters give themſelves up to relaxation and amuſement till the next day.

Every evening is a public feſtival, at which love, and that too not of the moſt refined ſort, preſides. The ſenſes ſpeak to the ſenſes, and they ſoon make themſelves underſtood; ſometimes, indeed vanity addreſſes vanity, but rarely do the heart and the imagination, appeal to the imagination and the heart.

Intrigues are ſo numerous at Rome, that nothing can be called an intrigue.

To conclude: the Romans greatly reſemble thoſe moderate, peaceable, and obſcure men, whom nobody is tempted to envy, who are neither amiable nor uſeful, whom you would be ſorry to reſemble, with whom you would not wiſh to live; but who nevertheleſs are happy.

Letters containing ſome Particulars relative to James *the* Second, *and his* Grandſon.

To the Publiſher.

SIR,

As the preſent poſture of affairs in this kingdom has made the abdication of James the Second a theme at this time much agitated, I have ſent you ſome particulars about that unfortunate Monarch to inſert in your miſcellany, which may be a curioſity to ſome of your readers, as it is a piece of hiſtory which is but little known at this period.

When the traitor Sunderland had put his Maſter upon doing things to alienate the affections of his people from him, that a way might be paved to call over the Prince of Orange to redreſs thoſe grievances which he himſelf had been the adviſer of, James then became ſenſible of his raſh conduct, in thus implicitly being led by an artful Miniſter to his ruin, and endeavoured to undo what he had been thus put upon doing, as he was very unwilling to leave the kingdom. At firſt he ſent a meſſage to Sir John Stamp and Sir Simon Lewes, Aldermen of London, to deſire that they would acquaint their brethren and the Common Council, that he was reſolved to come amongſt them, and put himſelf into the hands of the City, and there remain till he by a free Parliament had given ſatisfaction to his people, by ſecuring their religion, liberties, and properties, hoping that they would take care to guard his perſon from danger. This meſſage was communicated to them, but was rejected by the intereſt of Sir John Clayton. He then ſent a meſſage from Rocheſter to the Biſhop of Wincheſter, to be communicated to the

the other Bifhops, that he intended to come publicly or privately, and put himfelf into their hands, that he might be under their protection, till he had fully fettled and fecured every thing by a free Parliament; but this meffage met with no better fuccefs than that to the Aldermen.

When he found his fituation was fo forlorn, he took an opportunity of efcaping from the Dutch guards, which the Prince of Orange had placed over him, on the 23d of December, about two or three in the morning, and got on board a frigate commanded by Captain Macdonald, and with a favourable wind arrived in France. He left behind him a letter, which contained his reafons for thus withdrawing from his kingdoms, and another to the Earl of Middleton, defiring that the Dutch guards which attended on him might be gratified, every Captain with one hundred guineas, every Lieutenant and Enfign with fifty, and the reft in proportion. All the misfortunes which he met with were not able to make him forget his natural generofity.

When King James was gone, and the Throne declared vacant, the Convention then met, and deliberated about making fome future provifions againft arbitrary power; but when the Prince of Orange knew this, he fent Lord Wharton to feveral of the Lords, and Mr Coyling to Sir Edward Seymour, Mr Hambden, and other Commoners, to let them know, that if they infifted fo much on limitations, that he would return to Holland, and leave them to the mercy of King James.

Your humble fervant,

PHILALETHES.

SIR,

I HAVE fent you the letter I mentioned in my laft, which King James left behind him when he withdrew from the kingdom. It was written with his own hand, and ordered by him to be printed and publifhed. How unparalleled was the treachery of Sunderland to his mafter! Can the annals of time furnifh us with fuch a complicated piece of villainy? The perfidy of Judas falls fhort of this, as his was only a fudden and hafty act, which was repented of almoft as foon as committed. But this worthlefs nobleman's was a ftudied, deliberate, and premeditated deed, which he had brooded over for years, and was not followed with any marks of repentance. Why do I talk of fuch men repenting? Is not this hid from their eyes? Is it not a thing to which he and the Whigs are utter ftrangers? Was not this crime heightened by the forgivenefs which he received from this Prince for oppofing his fucceffion, and by the many fignal favours which he afterwards conferred upon him? Did not he take him into his bofom, and raife him to the zenith of glory? He entered on the office of Principal Secretary of State in the year 1678, and was foon after, at his own entreaty, recommended by the Earl of Danby to the Prince of Orange, as a perfon entirely devoted to his perfon. This devotion to the Prince's fervice made him to tamper with the Houfe of Commons to promote the Bill of Exclufion, and to vote for it himfelf in the other Houfe. For this the King difmiffed him from the Council, and his office of Secretary of State. On this difmiffion he did not, like other difcarded Statefmen of his party, openly declare war againft the Court, and put the nation in a blaze; but lay quiet, as he found the wind to blow hard againft his party, and afterwards veered his fails to another point, that he might gain his purpofe. He ingratiates himfelf into the favour of the Dutchefs of Portfmouth, under the pretence of difcovering the intrigues of the faction; and was by her mediation received into the King's favour, by whom he was reconciled to the Duke of York, readmitted to his place in Council, and foon after reftored to his office of Secretary.

This artful Minifter faw a fpirit of

loyalty

loyalty to pervade the nation, which he must use means to remove, before he could accomplish his schemes in favour of his friend the Prince of Orange; and this he affected by dispensing with the laws, getting the Bishops sent to the Tower, and Father Petre taken into the Council: and to deceive his master he turned Roman Catholic, and discovered such uncommon zeal for Popery, that he entered the Chapel prostrate. What a vile character doth this betray, thus to prevaricate with God and man to gain his ends? Is not this the top and summit of wickedness? Doth not this shew a bias to Atheism, an inclination to put into that forlorn port?

Your humble servant,

PHILALETHES.

"The world cannot wonder at my "withdrawing myself this second time; "I might have expected somewhat "better usage after what I wrote to "the Prince of *Orange* by my Lord "*Feversham*, and the instructions I "gave him; but instead of an answer, "such as I might have hoped for, "what was I to expect after the usage "I received, by making the said Earl a "prisoner against the practice and law "of nations? the sending his own "guards at eleven o'clock at night, to "take possession of the posts at *White-"hall*, without advertising me in the "least manner of it; the sending to "me at one o'clock at midnight, "when I was in bed, a kind of order "by three Lords to be gone out of my "palace before twelve the same morn-"ing? after all this, how could I "hope to be safe so long as I was in "the power of one, who had not on-"ly done this to me, and invaded my "kingdom without any just occasion "given him for it, but did also in his "first declaration, lay the greatest as-"persion on me that malice could in-"vent, in that clause of it that con-"cerns my son?—I appeal to all that "know me, nay, even to himself, "whether he or they can believe me "in the least capable of so unnatural "a villainy, or of so little common "sense to be imposed on in a thing of "such a nature as that. What had I "then to expect from one, who, by "all arts, has taken such pains to "make me appear as black as Hell to "my people, as well as all the world "besides; and what effect that has "had at home, all mankind must have "seen by so general a defection in my "army, as well as in the nation, by "all sorts of people. I was born free, "and desire so to continue; and tho' "I have ventured myself very frankly "on several occasions for the good "and honour of my country, and am "as free to do it again (and which, I "hope, I shall yet do, old as I am, to "redeem it from the slavery it is so "likely to fall under,) yet, I think it "not convenient to expose myself to "be so secured as not to be at li-"berty to effect it; and I appeal to "all who are considering men, and "have had experience, whether any "thing can make this nation so great "and flourishing, as liberty of con-"science to all Protestant Dissenters, "and to those of my own persuasion "(which was all the King aimed at; "and not, as has been artfully and "maliciously suggested to establish Po-"pery by law) so as they may live "peaceably, and not be obliged to "transplant themselves into other coun-"tries; but there is nothing which "some of our neighbours dread more "than that the thing called Liberty of "Conscience should be allowed here. "I could add much more to confirm "what I have said, but now it is not "proper."

. . . .

SIR, *Jan.* 4.

I HAVE observed some late anecdotes of the unfortunate Charles Stuart, by which he is misrepresented; perhaps my mite may contribute to do justice to that gentleman's memory.

I was abroad in the years 1744, &c. In

&c. In that year he was invited into France. At Paris, he appeared at the opera, &c. and was spoken of as a man of good spirit and appearance. When the project of sending him from Dunkirk miscarried, he returned to Paris; and some time after suddenly disappeared.

Mr Walsh, an eminent Irish merchant at Nantz, had fitted out a frigate, at his own expence (at least in appearance,) which when ready, Charles Stuart embarked in her *incognito*. She was joined at sea by the Elizabeth, a 64 gun ship from Brest. The latter had a severe engagement with the English ship the Lyon, Capt. Brett; and during the fight the frigate made the best of her way, and arrived in Scotland.

I heard the following anecdote of Charles Stuart at Rome. When young, as he stood at a window with his governor (an English Catholic Lord), looking at a grand procession, he fetched a deep sigh; and being asked the reason, he exclaimed, "Oh that our family should deprive themselves of three kingdoms for such nonsense!"—The expression did not shew him to have inherited the dastardly bigotry of his grandfather.

M. H.

SIR,

I DESIRE, to direct your attention to the two following letters*, transcribed from the Morning Chronicle. The anecdote which they convey will be considered by *all* your readers as matter of curiosity at least; and to *some* it will, no doubt, appear to be of importance to verify or falsify pretended facts which purport to involve the history, and dates which purpose to fix the epoch of the ruin, of the Jacobite cause in Great Britain.

A mistake in the paragraph of a common news-paper, which had confounded the widow and natural daughter of the late Pretender, has had the extraordinary effect of producing this anecdote, at once a piece of secret and publick history. The production of the anecdote, by the help of your useful Miscellany, into a field of circulation, far beyond the limits of that to which a morning paper is confined, may have an analogous effect; and at a time when no legitimate issue can be expected from the Royal House of Stuarts; when all the chiefs who held correspondence with the late Pretender are no more; when the allegiance of the great families, once believed and known to be attached to his race, has long since been transferred to the House of Brunswick; when hundreds, even of those who wore white cockades in Great Britain in 1745 and 1746, have since bled in the service of the present establishment; and when, by the liberality of that government, almost all the estates, forfeited by rebellion in favour of the exiled family, have been restored: at such a time, Sir, surely it may be expected that future Dalrymples and Macphersons may be anticipated; that this *text* may be freely and literally *commented* on; that the pretended facts and data may be scrutinized by those who are competent; that, if true, they may be confirmed, illustrated, and adopted into the History of George II. Thus we shall have a second episode in that reign, furnished by the same family, and of which the same person is the hero! On the contrary, should they be false, let them, *upon conviction*, be rejected and exploded.

HISTORICUS.

"SIR,

"AS I perceive from a paragraph in one of the late papers, that it is not clearly understood who the Countess of Albany is, it may possibly be interesting to your readers to be informed, that the lady whose intended visit to this

* The second letter we have not inserted, as it tended only to point out an error in the first, which is here corrected.

this country, by invitation of the Duke and Dutchefs of Gloucefter (as there ftated), is the daughter of the late Pretender by Mifs Walkinfhaw, a fifter of Mrs Walkinfhaw, bedchamber-woman to the late Princefs Dowager of Wales: whereas, by its being faid, in the paragraph alluded to, that, in certain circumftances, fhe would have been a very great lady in this country, and that fhe was allied to, and defcended from the Earls of Aylefbury, it is clearly and precifely marked, that the Countefs of Albany is miftaken for the late Pretender's confort, who was a Princefs of Stolberg, defcended, by the maternal line, from the Bruces, Earls of Aylefbury. The moft, therefore, that could have been done for this lady in England, *in any circumftances*, would have been, to have placed her upon the fame footing with that upon which the baftard defcendants of Charles II. ftand.

"The circumftances of the attachment which gave the Countefs of Albany birth, muft have a place in the Hiftory of Great Britain, when fecret cabinets fhall be opened to future Dalrymples and Macpherfons; for then it will appear, that the Pretender's connection with the fifter of a bedchamber-woman at Court, in addition to the indolent and fottifh life which he led at Bouillon in the year 1756, at a time when almoft general difcontent againft the government in England prevailed, and his party faw an opening favourable for their views, was the caufe, firft of a remonftrance to him, and afterwards of a final defertion of him by all the friends of the Houfe of Stuart. The feat of the late John Earl of Weftmoreland, at Mereworth in Kent, was the place where the chief of the party met. It was agreed then to reprefent to the Prince (as he was called,) in the ftrongeft colours, the danger that arofe to them from any intercourfe with him, whilft there was a moral certainty of a communication of fecrets of the utmoft confequence to their lives and fortunes by means of Mifs Walkinfhaw to her fifter at Leicefter-houfe, and the impoffibility of any good confequences arifing from their utmoft exertions, even at that moft favourable juncture, unlefs he roufed himfelf from his inglorious inactivity. The late Mr James Dawkins charged himfelf with the commiffion. He went to Bouillon, where he found the Prince wrapt up in Mifs Walkinfhaw, immerfed in the groffeft fenfuality, infenfible to the reprefentations of his adherents, and carelefs of all confequences. Mr Dawkins, upon his return to England, made his report to the fame convention at the fame place, when it was refolved, that under fuch a chief there were no farther hopes for the Jacobite caufe, and that there remained nothing for them but to make their peace at St James's at the firft favourable moment. This offered itfelf at the demife of the crown in 1760. The reft is remembered. OXONIENSIS."

Letters to the People of Great Britain.—*Continued from our laft, p. 46.*

LETTER IV.

Fellow Citizens,

I Really conceived that for the prefent I had done with Mr Fox; but having liftened with great attention to a late fpeech of Mr Sheridan, is it poffible for me not to oppofe to the oratory of that gentleman, a plain, fimple, and unadorned fact? "Mr Fox, a firm patriot himfelf, the leader of a band of patriots, erected a fortrefs for the defence of the conftitution, which every friend of the conftitution was invited to enter." Such was Mr Sheridan's

dan's ſtatement; but how far from truth, the following relation will prove:

In July 1782, a violent ſtruggle for power took place between the Earl of Shelburne and Mr Fox. The former was ſupported by the King, the latter by the gentle blood of the Cavendiſhes. Mr Fox was defeated, retired to the fortreſs which he had erected, and invited his old aſſociates to accompany him. Some accepted the invitation, others remained in office.

Forget not, my Fellow-Citizens, what was ſaid upon the memorable day of Mr Fox's retreat. By way of expreſſing, in the moſt forcible terms, their abhorrence of Lord Shelburne, we were told, that he would, *if poſſible, be a worſe Miniſter for Great Britain than Lord North*; that he would even attempt the reſtoration of *ſuch a man to office, but that the country would not bear it.* When Mr Sheridan gets upon ſtilts, I wiſh to encounter him; not with an unmeaning flouriſh, but with a plain fact. Does he not remember the words which I have quoted? Can he deny them? Can he explain them away, even with all his ſophiſtry and ingenuity? Can he tell the ſenſible People of England how that act, which would have been ſo flagitious if performed by Lord Shelburne, became meritorious when done by Mr Fox and the Duke of Portland?

Mr Fox's fortreſs was very weakly garriſoned, and upon the firſt trial of ſtrength in the winter, his numbers did not exceed ſeventy. It became a queſtion then how Patriots were to dine. Lord Shelburne they could not cajole, and he would not be bullied. Forget not, I beſeech you, the next ſtep of theſe worthies—They opened a negociation, and ſigned a treaty with Lord North; that man whom they had deſcribed as "the ſubmiſſive Miniſter of the Crown;" "the ſupporter *of corrupt influence*;" "the patron of contractors;" "the father of jobbs;" "the enemy of America;" "the ſleeping State pilot;" "the man whoſe blood was to expiate the calamities which he had brought upon his country." Non meus eſt hic ſermo, my countrymen.—Such were the epithets which they themſelves applied to Lord North for eight ſucceeding years; yet, to unite with ſuch a man, did Mr Fox quit his fortreſs, and offer ſuch an union. Mr Sheridan has the effrontery to allude to the fortreſs which his friend had created.—Away with ſuch nonſenſe!

Another part of Mr Sheridan's ſpeech ſtruck me very forcibly. He confeſſed, in the moſt open and avowed manner, that he was a party man. —He pronounced a ſounding panegyric upon two only of the party.—He was, indeed, laviſh in praiſe of theſe two; but when I conſider, that Mr Sheridan can talk well upon any ſubject, I muſt accuſe him of ingratitude to Lord North, who, as a ſubaltern, labours ſo hard in the ſervice of the party, after having been ten years Commander in Chief to Lord Stormont, long in the Cabinet, and long an Ambaſſador to Lord Loughborough, one of the higheſt ſages of the law, who pledged himſelf by Fifteen Precedents to eſtabliſh the favourite doctrine of the Prince's Rights, and to various Noblemen and Gentlemen of great conſideration, who will form the Tory party of the new Adminiſtration.

But, my Fellow Citizens, if I underſtand Mr Sheridan right, he broached a moſt dangerous and fatal doctrine; and I think he told us, in ſubſtance, that the character of the Duke of Portland was our beſt ſecurity.—I, for one, believe, that the plain ſenſe of the Duke of Portland, and his fair intentions to the country, lead him, upon all occaſions, to determine rightly *inſtanter*; but I believe alſo, that the adventurers by whom he is ſurrounded, perſuade him to give up his own opinion upon all occaſions, and that he never

never has, in any one instance, as a public man, acted according to the dictates of his own judgment.

I believe in my conscience, that the Duke of Portland, when the present calamity befel the nation, determined not to disturb the Government. —I believe it to be his principle, and the principle of the Cavendishes, not to force themselves into office, against the decided sense of the people, by resorting to the most open, the most barefaced bribery and corruption ever yet practised. I believe great pains were taken to prevail upon the Duke of Portland to join in the present disgraceful proceedings; and I believe also, that Lord John Cavendish peremptorily refused, for a considerable time, to lend his unsullied name to the support of such a desperate faction. But if common sense tells me that an act is wrong, am I to be led so away by sounds, as to think that act right, because the Duke of Portland, and Lord John Cavendish agree to it? The Duke of Portland, I dare say, when the idea of a Coalition with Lord North was first started, rejected it with horror.—When Mr Powell and Mr Bembridge were defended in the Commons, he must have felt indignant; he must have despised his associates. When a consultation of the party was held at his own house, and in his own presence, in April 1787, as to the mode of proceeding against Mr Hastings, on whom he was to sit in judgment, he must have felt his degradation. When he entertained the managers of the Impeachment in a body, his conscience must have told him, that his Burgundy was drank out of season. In short, my opinion of the Duke of Portland is this, that he has sense and virtue to act right, but wants firmness to resist importunity.—We, the people, and our interests, are neither to be sacrificed to the ambition of a Monarch, nor to the folly of an Aristocracy.—It is our business to judge men by their actions, and not upon the silly, contemptible, and dangerous doctrine, that this or that great family has sanctioned a measure, and that therefore it must be right. What is it to us, that the Duke of Portland is the great grandson of a Dutch gentleman, who owed his settlement in England to the private friendship of William the Third, or that the blood of Holles, Cavendish, and Harley, flows in his veins? We want a man who, in the Senate and the Cabinet, can act from himself, and who does not patronize every abandoned profligate in Great Britain. I wish not to be mistaken, nor to assert, nor to insinuate, that there are not men of virtue attached to the Duke of Portland. His brother-in-law, of Devonshire, may be faultless as a private Nobleman; yet once, and but once, he spoke in the Senate, and then it was to reprobate, in strong and manly language, the conduct of those very men in whose support his name, his influence, and possibly his purse, are now used. Who that knows Earl Fitzwilliam, however he may esteem his private character, will suppose him the best calculated to govern India, in London.—But, passing from the Lords of the party, amongst whom the Earl of Sandwich (formerly the object of their severest attacks) is the real man of business—let us a little consider whom we have to trust to in the Commons.—Of Mr Sheridan and Mr Fox I have already said enough.—Lord North, from the infirmity with which it has pleased God to afflict him, will of course retire with his sinecure of the Cinque Ports and Bushy Park. We shall soon see what division of the public spoils will fall to the share of his family. If I ever felt resentment against Lord North, his present situation would excite far different emotions; but I may be allowed to say, that, when he joined his present companions, he abandoned his principles, and that I can attribute that junction but to one of two motives—either he fear-

ed that Mr Fox and Mr Burke would carry their threats of Impeachment into execution; or, ſuch was his love of power, that, as he could no longer be a Miniſter, he preferred the part of aſſiſtant, to an honourable retirement.

Mr Burke ſtands before the public in a very peculiar point of view; either he is the diſintereſted advocate of injured millions, or a baſe and an infamous calumniator. In the buſineſs to which I allude, the accuſer and the accuſed are both upon their trial.—In the late ſtruggle for office and emolument, it is not ſurprizing that Mr Burke, amongſt the reſt of his aſſociates, ſhould have loſt ſight of every other object; yet I own, it was not without ſome ſurprize, that I heard a man, without family, connections, or fortune, affirm in the Houſe of Commons, that four thouſand pounds a year was a ſalary barely equal to the fatigue and drudgery of that office to which the ſalary was annexed.

As to the other Gentlemen who will compoſe the Boards of Treaſury, Admiralty, &c. we may freely ſuppoſe that they will be taken from that heterogeneous maſs which formed the Coalition ſix years ago.

Few of them are men of fortune, and not one of them, as far as I know, is a man of talents; but, almoſt without exception, they are men of diſſipated lives, who, if they do not deſert their party, think themſelves at liberty to act, in every other reſpect, with the moſt perfect freedom, unclogged by religious and moral obligations. From ſuch materials as I have deſcribed, is the new Adminiſtration to be compoſed; but that the firmneſs, and the virtue, and the ſpirit of the Public may guard the nation from the machinations of ſuch a cabal, is the ardent prayer of *A* WHIG.

An Account of the Earthquake at Liſbon, *upon the firſt of November* 1755; *now firſt publiſhed**.

THE following narrative is extremely intereſting, and contains, in the compaſs of a few pages, not only a fuller and a clearer, but, as there is reaſon to believe, a more authentic relation of the complicated miſeries of that dreadful day, than the Public hath yet ſeen. It was written, in the form of a letter, to the Reverend and learned Dr Sanby, Chancellor of the Dioceſe of Norwich, by Mr Braddock, an intimate friend of his, who had connections with the Engliſh Factory at Liſbon, and was upon the ſpot when that horrid cataſtrophe happened.

Liſbon, 13 Nov. 1755.

DEAR SIR,

I FLATTERED myſelf I ſhould have been able to write to you upon a more agreeable ſubject than the preſent, and had ſufficient reaſon to believe I ſhould have had the pleaſure of ſeeing you 'ere this in London, but God has been pleaſed to order it otherwiſe. . . . .

As no inſtance of the kind hath happened in theſe parts of the world for ſome ages, I herewith ſend you an account of one of the moſt dreadful cataſtrophes recorded in Hiſtory, the veracity of which you may entirely depend on, as I ſhared ſo great a part in it myſelf.

There never was a finer morning ſeen than the firſt of November; the ſun ſhone out in its full luſtre; the whole face of the ſky was perfectly ſerene and clear, and not the leaſt ſignal or warning of that approaching event, which

* From Davy's *Letters on Subjects of Literature*.

which has made this once flouriſhing, opulent, and populous city, a ſcene of the utmoſt horror and deſolation, except only ſuch as ſerved to alarm, but ſcarcely left a moment's time to fly from the general deſtruction.

It was on the morning of this fatal day, between the hours of nine and ten, that I was ſet down in my apartment, juſt finiſhing a letter, when the papers and table I was writing on began to tremble with a gentle motion, which rather ſurprized me, as I could not perceive a breath of wind ſtirring: whilſt I was reflecting with myſelf what this could be owing to, but without having the leaſt apprehenſion of the real cauſe, the whole houſe began to ſhake from the very foundation; which at firſt I imputed to the rattling of ſeveral coaches in the main ſtreet, which uſually paſſed that way, at this time, from Belem to the Palace; but on hearkening more attentively, I was ſoon undeceived, as I found it was owing to a ſtrange frightful kind of noiſe under ground, reſembling the hollow diſtant rumbling of thunder; all this paſſed in leſs than a minute, and I muſt confeſs I now began to be alarmed, as it naturally occurred to me, that this noiſe might poſſibly be the forerunner of an Earthquake, as one I remembered, which had happened about ſix or ſeven years ago, in the Iſland of Madeira, commenced in the ſame manner, though it did little or no damage.

Upon this I threw down my pen, and ſtarted upon my feet, remaining a moment in ſuſpence, whether I ſhould ſtay in the apartment, or run into the ſtreet, as the danger in both places ſeemed equal; and ſtill flattering myſelf that this tremor might produce no other effects than ſuch inconſiderable ones as had been felt at Medeira; but in a moment I was rouſed from my dream, being inſtantly ſtunned with a moſt horrid craſh, as if every edifice in the city had tumbled down at once. The houſe I was in ſhook with ſuch violence, that the upper ſtories immediately fell, and though my apartment (which was the firſt floor) did not then ſhare the ſame fate, yet every thing was thrown out of its place in ſuch a manner, that it was with no ſmall difficulty I kept my feet, and expected nothing leſs than to be ſoon cruſhed to death, as the walls continued rocking to and fro in the frightfulleſt manner, opening in ſeveral places; large ſtones falling down on every ſide from the cracks; and the ends of moſt of the rafters ſtarting out from the roof. To add to this terrifying ſcene, the ſky in a moment became ſo gloomy, that I could now diſtinguiſh no particular object; it was an Ægyptian darkneſs indeed, ſuch as might be felt; owing, no doubt, to the prodigious clouds of duſt and lime, raiſed from ſo violent a concuſſion, and as ſome reported, to ſulphureous exhalations, but this I cannot affirm; however it is certain, I found myſelf almoſt choked for near ten minutes.

As ſoon as the gloom began to diſperſe, and the violence of the ſhock ſeemed pretty much abated, the firſt object I perceived in the room, was a woman ſitting on the floor, with an infant in her arms, all covered with duſt; pale, and trembling. I aſked her how ſhe got hither? but her conſternation was ſo great, that ſhe could give me no account of her eſcape. I ſuppoſe that when the tremor firſt began, ſhe ran out of her own houſe, and finding herſelf in ſuch imminent danger from the falling ſtones, retired into the door of mine, which was almoſt contiguous to her's, for ſhelter; and when the ſhock increaſed, which filled the door with duſt and rubbiſh, ran up ſtairs into my apartment, which was then open: be it as it might, this was no time for curioſity. I remember the poor creature aſked me, in the utmoſt agony, if I did not think the world was at an end; at the ſame time ſhe complained of being choked, and begged, for God's ſake, I would procure

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her a little drink; upon this I went to a cloſet where I kept a large jar with water (which you know is ſometimes a pretty ſcarce commodity in Liſbon) but finding it broken in pieces, I told her ſhe muſt not now think of quenching her thirſt, but ſaving her life, as the houſe was juſt falling on our heads, and if a ſecond ſhock came, would certainly bury us both; I bade her take hold of my arm, and that I would endeavour to bring her into ſome place of ſecurity.

I ſhall always look upon it as a particular Providence, that I happened on this occaſion to be undreſſed, for had I dreſſed myſelf, as I propoſed, when I got out of bed, in order to breakfaſt with a friend, I ſhould, in all probability have run into the ſtreet, at the beginning of the ſhock, as the reſt of the people of the houſe did, and conſequently have had my brains daſhed out, as every one of them had; however, the imminent danger I was in, did not hinder me from conſidering that my preſent dreſs, only a gown and ſlippers, would render my getting over the ruins almoſt impracticable: I had, therefore, ſtill preſence of mind enough left, to put on a pair of ſhoes and a coat, the firſt that came in my way, (which was every thing I ſaved,) and in this dreſs I hurried down ſtairs, the woman with me, holding by my arm, and made directly to that end of the ſtreet which opens to the Tagus, but finding the paſſage this way entirely blocked up with the fallen houſes to the height of their ſecond ſtories, I turned back to the other end which led into the main ſtreet, (the common thoroughfare to the Palace) and having helped the woman over a vaſt heap of ruins, with no ſmall hazard to my own life; juſt as we were going into this ſtreet, as there was one part I could not well climb over without the aſſiſtance of my hands, as well as feet, I deſired her to let go her hold, which ſhe did, remaining two or three feet behind me, at which inſtant there fell a vaſt ſtone, from a tottering wall, and cruſhed both her and the child in pieces. So diſmal a ſpectacle at any other time would have affected me in the higheſt degree, but the dread I was in of ſharing the ſame fate myſelf, and the many inſtances of the ſame kind which preſented themſelves all around, were too ſhocking to make me dwell a moment on this ſingle object.

I had now a long narrow ſtreet to paſs, with the houſes on each ſide four or five ſtories high, all very old, the greater part already thrown down, or continually falling, and threatning the paſſengers with inevitable death at every ſtep, numbers of whom lay killed before me, or what I thought far more deplorable, ſo bruiſed and wounded that they could not ſtir to help themſelves. For my own part, as deſtruction appeared to me unavoidable, I only wiſhed I might be made an end of at once, and not have my limbs broken; in which caſe, I could expect nothing elſe but to be left upon the ſpot, lingering in miſery, like theſe poor unhappy wretches, without receiving the leaſt ſuccour from any perſon.

As ſelf-preſervation, however, is the firſt law of nature, theſe ſad thoughts did not ſo far prevail, as to make me totally deſpair. I proceeded on as faſt as I conveniently could, tho' with the utmoſt caution, and having at length got clear of this horrid paſſage, I found myſelf ſafe and unhurt in the large open ſpace before St Paul's church, which had been thrown down a few minutes before, and buried a great part of the congregation, that was generally pretty numerous, this being reckoned one of the moſt populous pariſhes in Liſbon. Here I ſtood ſome time conſidering what I ſhould do, and not thinking myſelf ſafe in this ſituation, I came to the reſolution of climbing over the ruins of the weſt end of the church, in order to get to the river ſide, that I might be removed

ved as far as poſſible, from the tottering houſes, in caſe of a ſecond ſhock.

This, with ſome difficulty, I accompliſhed, and here I found a prodigious concourſe of people, of both ſexes, and of all ranks and conditions, among whom I obſerved ſome of the principal Canons of the Patriarchal church, in their purple robes and rochets, as theſe all go in the habit of Biſhops; ſeveral Prieſts who had run from the altars in their ſacerdotal veſtments in the midſt of their celebrating maſs; ladies half dreſſed, and ſome without ſhoes; all theſe, whom their mutual dangers had here aſſembled as to a place of ſafety, were on their knees at prayers, with the terrors of death in their countenances, every one ſtriking his breaſt, and crying out, inceſſantly, *Miſerecordia meu Dios.*

Amidſt this crowd, I could not avoid taking notice of an old venerable Prieſt, in a ſtole and ſurplice, who, I apprehend, had eſcaped from St Paul's. He was continually moving to and fro among the people, exhorting them to repentance, and endeavouring to comfort them. He told them, with a flood of tears, that God was grievouſly provoked at their ſins, but that if they would call upon the Bleſſed Virgin, ſhe would intercede for them. Every one now flocked around him, earneſtly begging his benediction, and happy did that man think himſelf, who could get near enough to touch but the hem of his garment; ſeveral I obſerved had little wooden crucifixes, and images of Saints, in their hands, which they offered me to kiſs; and one poor Iriſhman I remember held out a St Antonio to me for this purpoſe, and when I gently put his arm aſide, as giving him to underſtand, that I deſired to be excuſed this piece of devotion, he aſked me, with ſome indignation, whether I thought there was a God. I verily believe many of the poor bigotted creatures, who ſaved theſe uſeleſs pieces of wood, left their children to periſh. However, you muſt not imagine, that I have now the leaſt inclination to mock at their ſuperſtitions. I ſincerely pity them, and muſt own, that a more affecting ſpectacle was never ſeen. Their tears, their bitter ſighs and lamentations, would have touched the moſt flinty heart. I knelt down amongſt them, and prayed as fervently as the reſt, though to a much properer object, the only Being who could hear my prayers, or afford me any ſuccour.

In the midſt of our devotions, the ſecond great ſhock came on, little leſs violent than the firſt, and compleated the ruin of thoſe buildings which had been already much ſhattered. The conſternation now became ſo univerſal, that the ſhrieks and cries of *Miſerecordia* could be diſtinctly heard from the top of St Catharine's hill, at a conſiderable diſtance off, whither a vaſt number of people had likewiſe retreated; at the ſame time we could hear the fall of the pariſh church there, whereby many perſons were killed on the ſpot, and others mortally wounded. You may judge of the force of this ſhock, when I inform you, it was ſo violent, that I could ſcarce keep on my knees, but it was attended with ſome circumſtances ſtill more dreadful than the former.—On a ſudden I heard a general outcry, "The ſea is coming in, we ſhall all be loſt."—Upon this, turning my eyes towards the river, which in that place is near four miles broad, I could perceive it heaving and ſwelling in a moſt unaccountable manner, as no wind was ſtirring; in an inſtant there appeared, at ſome ſmall diſtance, a large body of water, riſing as it were like a mountain: it came on foaming and roaring, and ruſhed towards the ſhore with ſuch impetuoſity, that we all immediately ran for our lives as faſt as poſſible; many were actually ſwept away, and the reſt above their waiſt in water at a good diſtance from the banks. For my own part, I had the narroweſt eſcape, and ſhould certainly have been loſt, had I not graſp-

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ed a large beam that lay on the ground, till the water returned to its channel, which it did almoſt at the ſame inſtant, with equal rapidity. As there now appeared at leaſt as much danger from the ſea as the land, and I ſcarce knew whither to retire for ſhelter, I took a ſudden reſolution of returning back, with my cloathes all dropping, to the area of St Paul's: here I ſtood ſometime, and obſerved the ſhips tumbling and toſſing about, as in a violent ſtorm: ſome had broken their cables, and were carried to the other ſide of the Tagus; others were whirled round with incredible ſwiftneſs; ſeveral large boats were turned keel upwards; and all this without any wind, which ſeemed the more aſtoniſhing. It was at the time of which I am now ſpeaking, that the fine new quay, built entirely of rough marble, at an immenſe expence, was entirely ſwallowed up, with all the people on it, who had fled thither for ſafety, and had reaſon to think themſelves out of danger in ſuch a place: at the ſame time a great number of boats and ſmall veſſels, anchored near it (all likewiſe full of people, who had retired thither for the ſame purpoſe) were all ſwallowed up, as in a whirlpool, and never more appeared.

This laſt dreadful incident I did not ſee with my own eyes, as it paſſed three or four ſtones' throws from the ſpot where I then was, but I had the account as here given from ſeveral maſters of ſhips, who were anchored within two or three hundred yards of the quay, and ſaw the whole cataſtrophe. One of them in particular informed me, that when the ſecond ſhock came on, he could perceive the *whole* city waving backwards and forwards, like the ſea when the wind firſt begins to riſe; that the agitation of the earth was ſo great, even under the river, that it threw up his large anchor from the mooring; which ſwam, as he termed it, on the ſurface of the water: that immediately upon this extraordinary concuſſion, the river roſe at once near twenty feet, and in a moment ſubſided; at which inſtant he ſaw the quay, with the whole concourſe of people upon it, ſink down, and at the ſame time every one of the boats and veſſels that were near it were drawn into the cavity, which he ſuppoſes inſtantly cloſed upon them, inaſmuch as not the leaſt ſign of a wreck was ever ſeen afterwards. This account you may give full credit to; for as to the loſs of the veſſels, it is confirmed by every body; and with regard to the quay, I went myſelf, a few days after, to convince myſelf of the truth, and could not find even the ruins of a place, where I had taken ſo many agreeable walks, as this was the common rendezvous of the factory in the cool of the evening. I found it all deep water, and in ſome parts ſcarcely to be fathomed.

This is the only place I could learn which was ſwallowed up in or about Liſbon, though I ſaw many large cracks and fiſſures in different parts; and one odd phenomenon I muſt not omit, which was communicated to me by a friend who has a houſe and wine cellars on the other ſide the river, *viz.* that the dwelling-houſe being firſt terribly ſhaken, which made all the family run out, there preſently fell down a vaſt high rock near it; that upon this the river roſe and ſubſided in the manner already mentioned, and immediately a great number of ſmall fiſſures appeared in ſeveral contiguous pieces of ground, from whence there ſpouted out, like a *jet d'eau*, a large quantity of fine white ſand, to a prodigious height. It is not to be doubted the bowels of the earth muſt have been exceſſively agitated, to cauſe theſe ſurprizing effects; but whether the ſhocks were owing to any ſudden exploſion of various minerals mixing together, or to air pent up, and ſtruggling for vent, or to a collection of ſubterraneous waters forcing a paſſage, God only knows; as to the fiery eruptions then talked of, I believe they are without foundation, though it

as certain I heard ſeveral complaining of ſtrong ſulphureous ſmells, a dizzineſs in their heads, a ſickneſs in their ſtomachs, and difficulty of reſpiration, not that I felt any ſuch ſymptoms myſelf.

I had not been long in the area of St Paul's, when I felt the third ſhock, which though ſomewhat leſs violent than the two former, the ſea ruſhed in again, and retired with the ſame rapidity, and I remained up to my knees in water, though I had gotten upon a ſmall eminence at ſome diſtance from the river, with the ruins of ſeveral intervening houſes to break its force. At this time I took notice the waters retired ſo impetuouſly, that ſome veſſels were left quite dry which rode in ſeven fathom water: the river thus continued alternately ruſhing on and retiring ſeveral times together, in ſuch ſort, that it was juſtly dreaded, Liſbon would now meet the ſame fate which a few years ago had befallen the city of *Lima; and no doubt had this place lain open to the ſea, and the force of the waves not been ſomewhat broken by the winding of the Bay, the lower parts of it at leaſt would have been totally deſtroyed.

The maſter of a veſſel, which arrived here juſt after the firſt of November, aſſured me, that he felt the ſhock above forty leagues at ſea ſo ſenſibly, that he really concluded he had ſtruck upon a rock, till he threw out the lead, and could find no bottom, nor could he poſſibly gueſs at the cauſe, till the melancholy ſight of this deſolate city left him no room to doubt of it. The two firſt ſhocks in fine were ſo violent, that ſeveral pilots were of opinion, the ſituation of the bar, at the mouth of the Tagus, was changed. Certain it is, that one veſſel attempting to paſs through the uſual channel, foundered, and another ſtruck on the ſands, and was [illegible] given over for loſt, but at length got through. There was another great ſhock after this, which pretty much affected the river, but I think not ſo violently as the preceding, though ſeveral perſons aſſured me, that as they were riding on horſeback in the great road leading to Belem, one ſide of which lies open to the river, the waves ruſhed in with ſo much rapidity, that they were obliged to gallop as faſt as poſſible to the upper grounds, for fear of being carried away.

I was now in ſuch a ſituation, that I knew not which way to turn myſelf: if I remained there, I was in danger from the ſea; if I retired further from the ſhore, the houſes threatened certain deſtruction; and, at laſt, I reſolved to go to the Mint, which being a low and very ſtrong building, had received no conſiderable damage, except in ſome of the apartments towards the river. The party of ſoldiers, which is every day ſet there on guard, had all deſerted the place, and the only perſon that remained was the commanding officer, a nobleman's ſon, of about ſeventeen or eighteen years of age, whom I found ſtanding at the gate. As there was ſtill a continued tremor of the earth, and the place where we now ſtood (being within twenty or thirty feet of the oppoſite houſes, which were all tottering) appeared too dangerous, the court yard likewiſe being full of water, we both retired inward to an hillock of ſtones and rubbiſh: here I entered into converſation with him; and having expreſſed my admiration that one ſo young ſhould have the courage to keep his poſt, when every one of his ſoldiers had deſerted theirs, the anſwer he made, was, *though he were ſure the earth would open and ſwallow him up, he ſcorned to think of flying from his poſt.* In ſhort, it was owing to the magnanimity of this young man, that the mint, which at this time had upwards of two millions of money in it, was not robbed; and indeed I do him no more

* This happened in 1746.

more than juſtice, in ſaying, that I never ſaw any one behave with equal ſerenity and compoſure, on occaſions much leſs dreadful than the preſent. I believe I might remain in converſation with him near five hours; and though I was now grown faint from the conſtant fatigue I had undergone, and having not yet broken my faſt, yet this had not ſo much effect upon me as the anxiety I was under for a particular friend, with whom I was to have dined that day, and who lodging at the top of a very high houſe in the heart of the city, and being a ſtranger to the language, could not but be in the utmoſt danger; my concern therefore for his preſervation, made me determine, at all events, to go and ſee what was become of him, upon which I took my leave of the officer.

As I thought it would be the height of raſhneſs to venture back through the ſame narrow ſtreet I had ſo providentially eſcaped from, I judged it ſafeſt to return over the ruins of St Paul's to the river ſide, as the water now ſeemed little agitated. From hence I proceeded, with ſome hazard, to the large ſpace before the Iriſh convent of Corpo Santo, which had been thrown down, and buried a great number of people who were hearing maſs, beſides ſome of the friars; the reſt of the community were ſtanding in the area, looking, with dejected countenances, towards the ruins; from this place I took my way to the back ſtreet leading to the Palace, having the ſhip yard on one ſide, but found the further paſſage, opening into the principal ſtreet, ſtopped up, by the ruins of the Opera-houſe, one of the ſolideſt and moſt magnificent buildings of the kind in Europe, and juſt finiſhed at a prodigious expence; a vaſt heap of ſtones, each of ſeveral tons weight, had entirely blocked up the front of Mr Briſtow's houſe, which was oppoſite to it, and Mr Ward, his partner, told me the next day, that he was juſt that inſtant going out at the door, and had actually ſet one foot over the threſhold, when the weſt end of the Opera-houſe fell down, and had he not in a moment ſtarted back, he would have been cruſhed into a thouſand pieces.

From hence I turned back, and attempted getting by the other way into the great Square of the Palace, twice as large as Lincoln's-Inn-Fields, one ſide of which had been taken up by the noble quay I ſpoke of, now no more; but this paſſage was likewiſe obſtructed by the ſtones fallen from the great arched gate-way. I could not help taking particular notice, that all the apartments wherein the Royal Family uſed to reſide, were thrown down, and themſelves, without ſome extraordinary miracle, muſt unavoidably have periſhed, had they been there at the time of the ſhock. Finding this paſſage impracticable, I turned to the other arched-way which led to the new Square of the Palace, not the eighth part ſo ſpacious as the other, one ſide of which was taken up by the Patriarchal church, which alſo ſerved for the Chapel Royal, and the other by a moſt magnificent building of modern architecture, probably indeed by far the moſt ſo, not yet compleatly finiſhed; as to the former, the roof and part of the front walls were thrown down, and the latter, notwithſtanding their ſolidity, had been ſo ſhaken, that ſeveral large ſtones fell from the top, and every part ſeemed disjointed. The Square was full of coaches, chariots, chaiſes, horſes, and mules, deſerted by their drivers and attendants, as well as their owners.

The nobility, gentry, and clergy, who were aſſiſting at divine ſervice when the earthquake began, fled away with the utmoſt precipitation, every one where his fears carried him, leaving the ſplendid apparatus of the numerous altars to the mercy of the firſt comer, but this did not ſo much affect me, as the diſtreſs of the poor animals, who ſeemed ſenſible of their

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hard fate; ſome few were killed, others wounded, but the greater part which had received no hurt, was left there to ſtarve.

From this Square, the way led to my friend's lodgings, through a long, ſteep and narrow ſtreet: the new ſcenes of horror I met with here exceed all deſcription; nothing could be heard but ſighs and groans. I did not meet with a ſoul in the paſſage who was not bewailing the death of his neareſt relations and deareſt friends, or the loſs of all his ſubſtance; I could hardly take a ſingle ſtep without treading on the dead, or the dying: in ſome places lay coaches, with their maſters, horſes, and riders, cruſhed in pieces; here, mothers with infants in their arms; there, ladies richly dreſſed, prieſts, friars, gentlemen, mechanics, either in the ſame condition, or juſt expiring: ſome had their backs or thighs broken, others vaſt ſtones on their breaſts; ſome lay almoſt buried in the rubbiſh, and crying out in vain to the paſſengers for ſuccour, were left to periſh with the reſt.

At length I arrived at the ſpot oppoſite to the houſe where my friend, for whom I was ſo anxious, reſided, and finding this as well as the contiguous buildings thrown down (which made me give him over for loſt) I now thought of nothing elſe but ſaving my own life in the beſt manner I could, and in leſs than an hour got to a public-houſe, kept by one Morley, near the Engliſh burying-ground, about half a mile from the city, where I ſtill remain, with a great number of my countrymen, as well as Portugueſe, in the ſame wretched circumſtances; having almoſt ever ſince lain on the ground, and never once within doors, with ſcarcely any covering to defend me from the inclemency of the night air, which at this time is exceeding ſharp and piercing.—Perhaps you may think the preſent doleful ſubject here concluded; but, alas! the horrors of the firſt of November are ſufficient to fill a volume. As ſoon as it grew dark, another ſcene preſented itſelf little leſs ſhocking than thoſe already deſcribed—the whole city appeared in a blaze, which was ſo bright that I could eaſily ſee to read by it. It may be ſaid, without exaggeration, it was on fire at leaſt in an hundred different places at once, and thus continued burning for ſix days together, without intermiſſion, or the leaſt attempt being made to ſtop its progreſs.

It went on conſuming every thing the earthquake had ſpared, and the people were ſo dejected and terrified, that few or none had courage enough to venture down, to ſave any part of their ſubſtance; every one had his eyes turned towards the flames, and ſtood looking on with ſilent grief, which was only interrupted by the cries and ſhrieks of women and children calling on the ſaints and angels for ſuccour; whenever the earth began to tremble, which was ſo often this night, and indeed I may ſay ever ſince, that the tremors more or leſs did not ceaſe for a quarter of an hour together. I could never learn, that this terrible fire was owing to any ſubterraneous eruption, as ſome reported, but to three cauſes, which all concurring at the ſame time, will naturally account for the prodigious havock it made: the firſt of November being All Saints Day, a high feſtival among the Portugueſe, every altar in every church and chapel (ſome of which have more than twenty) was illuminated with a number of wax tapers and lamps, as cuſtomary; theſe ſetting fire to the curtains and timber work that fell with the ſhock, the conflagration ſoon ſpread to the neighbouring houſes, and being there joined with the fires in the kitchen chimnies, increaſed to ſuch a degree, that it might eaſily have deſtroyed the whole city, though no other cauſe had concurred, eſpecially as it met with no interruption.

But what would appear incredible to you, were the fact leſs public and

notorious, is, that a gang of hardened villains, who had been confined, and got out of priſon when the wall fell, at the firſt ſhock, were buſily employed in ſetting fire to thoſe buildings which ſtood ſome chance of eſcaping the general deſtruction. I cannot conceive what could have induced them to this helliſh work, except to add to the horror and confuſion, that they might, by this means, have the better opportunity of plundering with ſecurity. But there was no neceſſity for taking this trouble, as they might certainly have done their buſineſs without it, ſince the whole city was ſo deſerted before night, that I believe not a ſoul remained in it, except thoſe execrable villains, and others of the ſame ſtamp.

With regard to the buildings, it was obſerved, that the ſolideſt, in general, fell the firſt.

The whole number of perſons that periſhed, including thoſe who were burnt, or afterwards cruſhed to death whilſt digging in the ruins, is ſuppoſed, on the loweſt calculation, to amount to more than ſixty thouſand; and though the damage in other reſpects cannot be computed, yet you may form ſome idea of it, when I aſſure you, that this extenſive and opulent city is now nothing but a vaſt heap of ruins, that the rich and poor are at preſent upon a level; ſome thouſands of families which but the day before had been eaſy in their circumſtances, being now ſcattered about in the fields, wanting every conveniency of life, and finding none able to relieve them.

A few days after the firſt conſternation was over, I ventured down into the city, by the ſafeſt ways I could pick out, to ſee if there was a poſſibility of getting any thing out of my lodgings, but the ruins were now ſo augmented by the late fire, that I was ſo far from being able to diſtinguiſh the individual ſpot where the houſe ſtood, that I could not even diſtinguiſh the ſtreet, amidſt ſuch mountains of ſtones and rubbiſh which roſe on every ſide. Some days after, I ventured down again with ſeveral porters, who, having long plied in theſe parts of the town, were well acquainted with the ſituation of particular houſes; by their aſſiſtance, I at laſt diſcovered the ſpot; but was ſoon convinced, to dig for any thing here, beſides the danger of ſuch an attempt, would never anſwer the expence, and what further induced me to lay aſide all thoughts of the matter, was the ſight of the ruins ſtill ſmoaking, from whence I knew for certain, that thoſe things I ſet the greateſt value on, muſt have been irrecoverably loſt in the fire.

On both the times when I attempted to make this fruitleſs ſearch, eſpecially the firſt, there came ſuch an intolerable ſtench from the dead bodies, that I was ready to faint away, and though it did not ſeem ſo great this laſt time, yet it had like to have been more fatal to me, as I contracted a fever by it, but of which, God be praiſed, I ſoon got the better.

Thus, my dear friend, have I given you a genuine, though imperfect account, of this terrible judgment, which has left ſo deep an impreſſion on my mind, that I ſhall never wear it off.

Extract of Memoirs of the Reign of Lewis XIV.; *by* M. le duc de Saint-Simon.

WHATEVER relates to ſo memorable an age as that of Lewis the XIV. muſt be very intereſting; the ſmalleſt anecdotes of a court ſo brilliant and poliſhed, and ſo long the admiration of Europe, are more agreeable

able to a delicate mind, than the conqueſts of rude and barbarous princes, whoſe whole merit conſiſts in a ſavage ferocity. Crouds indeed of impudent falſehoods, manufactured in the garrets of Amſterdam, have been impoſed on the public as anecdotes of this court; ſuch are the volumes known by the name of *Hiſtoire Amoureuſe des Gaules;* except the firſt, which was written by the Count de Buſſy Rabutin.

Voltaire in his *Siecle de Louis XIV.* and la Beaumelle in his *Memoires de Mde. de Maintenon*, have made choice of many curious and authentic anecdotes of this famous reign: but they have omitted many equally worthy of preſervation; nor have they profited by the Memoirs of the Duke de S. Simon, which abound in curious details that are no where elſe to be met with. His manuſcript memoirs were long an object of great curioſity with amateurs; nor is this ſurpriſing, for no one knew the court of Lewis XIV. better than he. In theſe memoirs we ſee that Prince, as it were, in diſhabille, and are made acquainted with the ſecrets of his private life; we are alſo enabled to eſtimate the real character of the great men, and of the moſt illuſtrious perſonages that made ſo conſpicuous a figure in thoſe days, at court. The following anecdotes are ſelected as a ſpecimen of thoſe memoirs.

Lewis was neglected in his infancy, and he was once found in a pond in the *Palais-royal* at Paris, where the court then was. He was lulled to ſleep every evening with childiſh ſtories, a practice he very much regretted the want of, when he was delivered over to the care of preceptors. *La Porte*, his firſt valet-de-chambre, having remarked that, in his play, Lewis often affected to act the valet, put himſelf into an arm chair, with his hat on his head, and played the part of the king. The boy told this incident to his mother, when La Porte, in preſence of Lewis, ſaid in excuſe, "Since the king chooſes my trade, is it not reaſonable for me to chooſe his? and indeed I don't find that I loſe any thing by the exchange." This was a leſſon which the king did not need to have repeated a ſecond time.

Altho' poſſeſſed, during his whole life, with the rage of conqueſt, he was not naturally brave, and never cared to be preſent at an engagement. This weakneſs he had in common with Auguſtus, but he knew better how to conceal it. In 1676, when he was in Flanders, pretty near the army of the Prince of Orange, he called a council to deliberate whether it was expedient to hazard a battle. All the Marſhals of France, and the moſt experienced officers, were perſuaded in their own minds, that victory was certain; but Louvois, who knew his maſter, had been trafficking with them, two hours before the council, in order to prevail on them to give an advice ſuited to the inclination of the king: they accordingly gave their opinion, more like courtiers than ſoldiers; the Marſhall de Lorgos alone was obſtinate in maintaining the neceſſity of a battle: but he was not liſtened to; the king yielded to the majority of voices, at the ſame time affecting ſome chagrin that his martial ardour ſhould be thus diſappointed.

On another occaſion, when the Prince of Orange was incloſed between two French armies, double in numbers to his, Lewis took a ſudden reſolution of returning to Verſailles. It was in vain that M. de Luxembourg fell on his knees; in vain he repreſented the facility, the certainty, the importance of a victory that would terminate the campaign. The king, inſenſible to his intereſts and his fame, abandoned the frontiers, and returned to Mde. de Maintenon, and the ladies.

People of the loweſt as well as of the higheſt rank, were at liberty to ſpeak with the king when he was going to maſs, or on his return from it; when

when he was paſſing from one chamber to another, or when he was getting into his carriage. The moſt diſtinguiſhed ſpoke to him at the door of his cabinet; but without daring to enter with him: and thus far his facility of acceſs was carried. His common anſwer to a petition was, *je verrai*, I will think of it. He hardly ever gave an audience in his chamber, even to thoſe who had to make a report to him of buſineſs in which he had employed them. He ſpoke a few words to his generals, as they departed or returned from the army, but always in preſence of the miniſter for the war department. Sometimes, however, he neither ſaw them at their departure nor on their return; their letters were never ſeen by him, till after they had paſſed through the hands of the miniſter. Marſhall Turenne alone, who was at variance with Louvois, made his letters be preſented by the Cardinal de Bouillon.

When any one, however, was ſo happy as to obtain a private audience, he generally reaped a great advantage by it, if he conducted himſelf with ſufficient reſpect. For at theſe times, however prejudiced or diſſatisfied the king might be, he always liſtened with patience, with condeſcenſion, with a deſire to be informed; but never interrupted the ſpeaker to obtain that information. Perſons might then ſpeak freely, provided they ſpoke with an air of ſubmiſſion and dependence: the king, though proud and jealous of his authority in a high degree, permitted himſelf to be interrupted, and to have his facts flatly denied; nor did he take it ill, that the perſon grew warm, and raiſed his voice higher than his. He afterwards congratulated himſelf on the audience he had given, diveſted himſelf of the prejudices he had before entertained, and applauded himſelf for having diſcovered the truth.

Lewis had an extreme curioſity to know what paſſed at public places, in private families, in the commerce of the world, and in particular houſes. This curioſity made the functions exerciſed by the Lieutenant of police, of great extent and importance. He liſtened with great weakneſs and credulity, to all the reports that were made to him; he had a great number of people employed in collecting that ſecret intelligence; the letters containing it, were given into his own hands, and were never ſeen by any other perſon; the conſequence was, that crowds of people fell victims to thoſe informations, without being able to diſcover the cauſe of their misfortunes. The king, when once prepoſſeſſed in this manner, could never afterwards be brought to reaſon. His miniſters, his miſtreſſes, his very confeſſor, never could obtain from him any favour for a perſon of whom he had received an unfavourable report.

He joined to this curioſity, great ſecrecy; no man ever ſo well poſſeſſed the art of keeping ſilence, and of diſſembling, without however wounding the truth. He kept the ſecrets of another as religiouſly as his own, of which the following is a ſtriking inſtance:—A woman of quality, whoſe huſband had been abſent for more than a year, knowing herſelf with child at the time when he was about to return from the army, aſked a private audience of the king, and obtained it. She diſcloſed to him her ſituation, as to the moſt honourable man in his dominions. Lewis promiſed to detain the huſband on the frontiers, as long as it would be neceſſary, to prevent him from entertaining any ſuſpicions; and immediately commanded Louvois to give directions to that officer, not to abſent himſelf for a ſingle day from the poſt aſſigned to him, but to continue the command during the whole winter. The officer was, no doubt, exceedingly ſurpriſed at the order, but it was neceſſary to obey.

Though, in general, maſter of himſelf, and jealous of his dignity, he was ſometimes tranſported with rage and paſſion

paſſion. One day, when he had been exceedingly offended with ſome diſreſpectful pleaſantries againſt the Duc du Maine in the Dutch Gazette, as he was riſing from table at Marly, with all the ladies, and in preſence of all the courtiers, he perceived a ſervant who, in removing the cloth, put a biſcuit into his pocket. The king, inſtantaneouſly forgetting the dignity of his rank, ran to the fellow, ſtruck him with his cane, broke it over his ſhoulders, and loaded him with the harſheſt language; then, with the broken ſtick in his hand, he paſſed thro' the little cloſet, and an anti-chamber, like a perſon beſide himſelf, railing at the ſervant, who was now far from being within hearing: then he went to Mde de Maintenon's chamber, where he ſtaid an hour, and in returning he met father le Chaiſe; "Father, ſays the king, I have beaten a raſcal here, and broke my cane over his ſhoulders, but I don't think I have offended God;" and ſo related the pretended crime.

On another occaſion he ſhewed a great deal of indifference. The largeſt apartment of the palace was furniſhed with crimſon velvet, with taſſels and fringes of gold: one morning, it was found that theſe were all carried off, which ſeemed aſtoniſhing in a place ſo carefully locked during the night, and ſo well guarded and ſo much frequented during the day. *Bontems*, in deſpair, made all poſſible ſearch without ſucceſs. Five or ſix days after, while the king was at ſupper, a huge bundle fell on the table juſt before him without any body ſeeing whence it came. It was ſo weighty that it looked as if it would have pierced thro' the table, and it made all the plates to rebound. The king ſtunned with the noiſe, turned about his head, and without any emotion, "I fancy, ſays he, theſe are our fringes," and he was not deceived. To the bundle was tied a paper with theſe words; "*Take back your fringes, Bontems; our compliments to the king.*" This was read to the king, who only ſaid, "it is very inſolent." He made the bundle be taken away, and then ſupped as if nothing had happened.

Other princes have underſtood better the art of reigning, but none have ever better known the art of keeping a court than Lewis the XIV. He excited, with incredible addreſs, an emulation amongſt the courtiers, by a number of little flattering preferences, which he contrived and varied according to circumſtances. The frequent feaſts and particular parties at Verſailles, the numerous excurſions, eſpecially thoſe to Marly, were ſo many means that he made uſe of to keep every one attentive and aſſiduous to pleaſe him; for, on theſe occaſions, he always named thoſe that were to be of the party, which was conſidered as a great honour. He obſerved, with particular attention, thoſe that waited on him at his levee and at his meals; he looked both to the right and to the left as he paſſed from one apartment to another; in the gardens of Verſailles he remarked every body; no one eſcaped him, even thoſe who had no expectation of being taken notice of. With him aſſiduity in paying one's court was a principal merit. If he was aſked a favour for any one who did not ſhew himſelf at Verſailles, "*I do not know him*," he would reply: if it was for one that came but ſeldom, he would ſay, "*he is a man I never ſee*;" and theſe ſentences were irrevocable.

No one ever gave with ſo good a grace, nor better framed his diſcourſe, his ſmiles, his very looks: as he ſpoke little, and in the feweſt words, if he addreſſed himſelf to any one, it was a mark of great diſtinction. He never ſaid an uncivil thing. Never was any one ſo naturally polite, nor of a politeneſs ſo guarded, accommodating itſelf ſo exactly to age, merit, and rank. His manner of ſaluting, and of receiving

ing ſalutations, was exactly calculated to the circumſtances of the different perſons. He never paſſed a woman of the meaneſt rank, even the chamber-maids, without putting his hand to his hat: to ladies, he took it quite off; and if he ſpoke to them, he never put it on till he left them: to people of quality, he raiſed his hat, or held it by his ear; to perſons of inferior ſtation, he contented himſelf with putting his hand to it; but took it quite off to princes of the blood. At ſupper, he half roſe up to every lady of quality that entered; but this fatigued him towards the end of his life, and therefore ladies took care not to come after he had begun. If he was made to wait for any thing while he was dreſſing, he never expreſſed the leaſt impatience: he was very punctual in regulating the employment of every hour in the day, and when, during winter, the weather did not permit him to go abroad, he uſually went to Mde de Maintenon's an hour ſooner than he intended; at ſuch times, if the captain of the guard was not on duty, "it is my fault," he would ſay, "for having anticipated the hour." He was very familiar with his principal valets de chambre, which made them exceedingly inſolent. In general, he wiſhed his ſervants to be treated with a good deal of regard and conſideration; and the courtiers regulated their behaviour accordingly. Having one day ſent one of his running footmen with a letter to the Duke de Montbazon, who was then at a country ſeat not far from Paris, that nobleman invited the ſervant to dine with him, and after dinner ſaw him down ſtairs out into the very court.

However abſolute and deſpotic Lewis XIV. was, his vanity and openneſs to flattery, furniſhed his miniſters with the means of leading him as they choſe. As he pretended to know and to underſtand every thing, and to act without direction or advice, the grand ſecret of pleaſing him was to appear informed by his judgment: and none of his miniſters ever governed him better, than when they pretended to be governed by him. For this reaſon, he willingly employed people of mean and weak parts, becauſe he flattered himſelf he could guide and form them; he diſtruſted men of ſuperior and acknowledged abilities, becauſe he feared they might uſe theſe abilities to rule him; and hence all the improper elections he made in the laſt half of his reign.

Manſard, ſuperintendant of the buildings, brought him plans with the moſt palpable defects made on purpoſe; and when the king pointed out what it was neceſſary to amend, the cunning artiſt ran out in praiſes of the juſtneſs of his obſervations and the accuracy of his taſte, which made him perceive the moſt delicate principles of the art of architecture.

Although he had neither voice nor knowledge of muſic, he uſed to ſing ſome of thoſe paſſages in the prologues of Quinault that contain the groſſeſt flattery: it was evident he delighted in them, and even at his public ſuppers, where he ſometimes had muſic, he muttered to himſelf the words while the airs were playing.

This haughty monarch, when in great want of money, was ſo far reduced as to be obliged, in a manner, to make his court to the celebrated banker, Samuel Bernard. All his reſources were exhauſted. The comptroller-general, Deſmarets, had in vain applied in every quarter; Bernard himſelf was inflexible. Deſmarets imagined that vanity alone could make him open his purſe; and the king, ſo much accuſtomed to flattery, did not diſdain to become a flatterer in his turn. When the comptroller-general introduced the banker to him, he gave him the moſt gracious reception, and ſaid to him, "Who would imagine that you have never been at Marly? Come and ſee it at my *promenade*, and I will reſtore you afterwards to Deſmarets." The king

king led him every where, and ſhewed him every thing himſelf; never ceaſing to ſpeak with him while the walk laſted, to the great aſtoniſhment of the courtiers, who admired this kind of prodigality in a king ſo niggard of his words. Bernard returned from this walk, enchanted with the regard and attention of the king, and ſaid to Deſmarets, that he would rather riſk his own ruin, than ſuffer ſo great a prince to be embarraſſed. The comptroller profited by the occaſion, and drew from the banker much more money than he had expected.

The principal fault of Lewis, was the being too eaſily led into wars, which his miniſters only excited in order to make themſelves neceſſary. The anecdote of the window at Trianon, which occaſioned the war of 1688, is a curious inſtance.

Louvois, upon the death of Colbert, got the ſuperintendance of the buildings. The king having loſt conceit of the ſmall houſe at Trianon, formerly built for Mde. de Monteſpan, and being ſatisfied with nothing but palaces, reſolved to build another. He took great pleaſure in theſe buildings, and had a very juſt eye for ſymmetry and proportion, but his taſte was not correſpondent.

This new houſe was hardly above ground, when the king perceived a defect in one of the windows of the ground floor. Louvois, who was naturally rude and impatient of reproof, even from his maſter, diſputed ſtrenuouſly, and maintained that the window was right. The king turned away, and went to ſome other part of the building.

Next day he met Le Notre, an able architect, and famous for his taſte in the deſigning of gardens. Upon underſtanding from him that he had never been at Trianon, the king related to him the circumſtance he had found fault with, and wiſhed Le Notre had ſeen it. The day after, having again met him, and alſo the third day, without his having gone to Trianon, the king began to perceive, that he durſt not expoſe himſelf to find Louvois in the wrong. He was offended at this, and commanded him to go next day to Trianon, where he was to be with Louvois.

They accordingly met next day at the place appointed, and the ſubject of the window was immediately brought on the carpet. Louvois argued, Le Notre was dumb; at laſt the king deſired him to go and meaſure the window, and to inform them of the reſult. Louvois was enraged at this verification, he grumbled exceedingly, and ſtill maintained with obſtinacy, that the window was exactly like the reſt. When the meaſurement was finiſhed, Le Notre was aſked the reſult, but Le Notre began to heſitate. At this the king got into a paſſion, and ordered him to ſpeak out: he was obliged to obey, and then confeſſed that the king was in the right. Lewis immediately turning upon Louvois, ſaid to him, that his obſtinacy was grown inſufferable, and that without his obſervation, the whole building would have been ſpoiled.

Louvois, ſtung with vexation at the iſſue of this adventure, and irritated that the courtiers, the workmen, and ſervants had been witneſſes of it, comes home in a rage, and finds St Fouange, Villeneuf, the chevalier Nogent, the two Tilladets, and ſome other intimate friends, who were greatly alarmed to find him in this condition. "I am undone, ſays he, I am loſt with the king, conſidering the manner in which he has treated me, for nothing but a window. I have nothing left, in order to draw him off from theſe buildings and to make myſelf neceſſary to him, but a war; and by God he ſhall have it." He kept his word, and in a few months, in ſpite of the king and the other powers, he made it general. It ruined France internally, did not extend the

prosperity of her arms abroad, but produced, on the contrary, the most disgraceful events.

This anecdote, with others of the same kind to be found in these memoirs, will in part plead the excuse of Lewis with posterity; indeed, he often reproached himself for his love of war.

It was this same ambitious man who, in order to render the war more animated and more lasting, and to take away all hope of conciliation, commanded the Palatinate to be laid waste, Worms and Spire to be burnt, and comforted himself for all these horrid deeds, with the preservation of his place. After all, he was afraid he had not rendered himself sufficiently necessary, he wanted likewise to burn the city of Treves, and had the audacity to propose it to Lewis, who rejected it with indignation.

A few days after this proposal, Louvois, who had the vice of obstinacy, and the confidence to suppose he could carry whatever he wished, came as usual to Madame de Maintenon's, where the king transacted the public business. Towards the conclusion, Louvois said, he had been convinced that the king had refused to consent to a measure so necessary for his service, as that of the burning of Treves, merely from scruples of conscience; that he considered himself as doing him a peculiar service, by relieving him from these scruples, and taking the whole upon himself; and therefore he had dispatched a courier, with orders to procure the burning of Treves immediately on his arrival.

The king, contrary to his natural disposition, was instantly so transported with rage, that he seized the tongs, and would have let Louvois feel the weight of them, had not Madame de Maintenon interfered and wrested them from him, while in the meantime Louvois gained the door. The king called him back again, and, his eyes flashing with fury, desired him instantly to dispatch a courier with counter orders; "and let him arrive in time, said the king, for if a single house is burnt, your head shall answer for it."

Louvois retreated more dead than alive; not to send off a counter order, for the first courier had not yet set out. He had given him the dispatches, but desired him to wait his return from the king, hoping that Lewis, when he heard that the order was sent off, would only regret it, without countermanding it.

Being at the siege of Mons, and walking round his camp, the king found a guard ill placed, and he altered it. Walking in the same place after dinner, he found the same guard in another situation. He was both surprised and irritated, and asking the captain who had placed him there, was told, that M. de Louvois had altered his situation. "But, said the king, did you not tell him that it was I who had placed you there?" Yes, replied the captain. The king was nettled, and turning to his suite, "Louvois, says he, must meddle with this trade too, forsooth! he thinks himself a master of the art of war, and believes that he knows every thing." After this adventure, the credit of Louvois began sensibly to decline, and in a little time he died suddenly. The king, who had been long impatient of his behaviour, could not conceal his satisfaction. An officer having come from the king of England, to condole with him on his loss, Lewis answered in a very careless manner, "Give my compliments and thanks to the king and queen of England, and tell them from me, that my affairs and theirs will not go a bit the worse." Louvois died opportunely; for the very next day he was to have been arrested and committed to the Bastile *.

To

* *To be continued.*

To the Publisher.

SIR,

NATURE seems to have designed, that the happiness of women should consist in objects considerably different from those which constitute the felicity of man. The arts in which each should excel ought therefore proportionally to vary. *He* was destined for enterprize, *she* for the calm of domestic life. In him then should be implanted an extensive knowledge of mankind, and courage capable of framing and executing great undertakings. For her more pleasing and less dangerous lot, talents of an humbler kind are sufficient virtues and accomplishments, which bring pleasure or advantage to the small circle with which she is connected.

These reflections occurred to me, in reading an Essay of Mr Knox "On the Insensibility of Men to the Charms of a Female Mind, cultivated with polite and solid Literature." This writer attempts to prove, by an apt narration, the folly and injustice of denying to the female mind that improvement which is derived from an acquaintance with the classics. Except specimens of the style, pedantic in a degree of perfection to be found in no other author, this woful tale contains nothing uncommon. The lady, whose adventures are related, received, by the care of her father, a portion of learning, by means of which she might have commented on the Comments of Dr Bentley. The consequence was such as might have been expected. She was shunned by the ladies from terror, and by the men from contempt. "They kindly hint," it is observed, "that a lady of an understanding so improved, will not submit to the less dignified cares of managing a household, nor can they reconcile the ideas of female attractions, and a knowledge of Greek." Both these opinions appear to me well founded. They are, however, stoutly denied by Mr Knox, and combated by divers weighty arguments.—Let them enter in order.

"I must confess," saith the heroine of this legend, "I ever thought it the must valuable recommendation of a wife, to be capable of becoming a conversible companion to her husband; nor did I ever conceive that the qualifications of a cook-maid, a laundress, or a housekeeper, were the most desirable accomplishments in a partner for life." This may be granted, and without establishing Mr Knox's opinion. Between learning and ignorance he has supposed too small a distance. Must a woman be capable of filling a professor's chair, or only fit to inhabit Swift's Hospital for Idiots? Between the sciences of mathematics and of cookery, are there no intermediate steps? and are all females employed in perusing Aristotle's poetics or MacIver's book of receipts? There is surely a mean, and the generality of the sex, I trust, have found it. Of strange materials, indeed, must he be composed, that can resign his heart to a woman who possesses no acquired accomplishments; who is rude and unpolished as from the hand of Nature.

> I took it in my head
> To write my love a letter;
> The lassie cou'dna read,
> And I lo'ed her a' the better.

Few agree in opinion with this bard of other times; nor has Mr Knox a greater number of followers. To render the marriage state happy, no splendid abilities, nor extensive knowledge are required of the fair one. In these the husband ought to excel. By bestowing them also on his help-mate, they

they whom love should join become rivals; each striving for eminence, and each mortified by the superiority of the other. In the female mind we expect a softness, an undescribable delicacy, which the dignity of learning must destroy.

" Nought but a genius can a genius fit:
A wit herself, Amelia weds a wit;
Both wits! tho' miracles are said to cease,
Three days, three wondrous days they liv'd in peace.
With the fourth sun a warm dispute arose,
On Durfy's poetry and Bunyan's prose;
The learned war both wage with equal force,
And the fifth morn concluded the divorce*."

Such must be the fate of authors bound in the chains of holy wedlock. Nor can happiness exist in that family, the learning of which is deposited in the *pericranium* of the wife. She naturally looks to her husband for protection and advice. Finding it vain to expect these from him, contempt and indignation must ensue; and are these feelings compatible with love?

These arguments I am induced to state with greater confidence, as I find them confirmed by the opinion of a venerable Bard, in a poem of his which I lately discovered among the deposits in the Antiquarian Society. This valuable morsel of antiquity I intend to give to the world. I shall content myself at present with transcribing two stanzas if it. It is entitled, " The Wandering Lover of Hertford." The hero, after deep cogitation, is convinced that, of all conditions, Matrimony must be the happiest.

" For why? The losel needs to shrink no more
With rescu'd maids, beneath some humble shed,
When there's a nymph at home, and downy crimson bed."

For these, and various reasons of equal importance, he set out in quest of a wife. The adventures he encountered in this pursuit form the subject of the poem. As the language in which it is composed is now obsolete, I have endeavoured to modernize the passage which I have the honour of transmitting to you.

" On velvet chair, with laurel garland grac'd,
Ragged and old, the learned dame he found;
Near her was many a dusty tome y-plac'd,
With clouts, good store, her sharp sharp face was bound.
Her broad splay foot had burst its leathern round,
And down her neck her matted tresses stray,
Soon from beneath was heard a grumbling sound,
And in the air most precious odours play,
Sir Knight then cross'd himself, and puking strode away.

" Prepare my courser, squire of mine!" he cry'd,
" And wipe this damn'd stuff o'er my corslet spread†."
Then mid the trees the glittering tow'rs he spy'd,
That shelter'd Palinella's lovely head.

The

* Love of Fame, Sat. 5th.
† See concluding line of the last stanza.

The sprightly dance her little sisters led,
Footing it featly to the lute's alarms;
Delicious tears the beaut'ous virgin shed,
While rapture heighten'd all her artless charms,
"Thou'rt mine!" the warrior cry'd, and rush'd into her arms.

Mr Knox's second argument is to the following purport: "As the education of children naturally belongs to the mother, she who has stored her mind with the treasures of antiquity, and enjoys the smiles of the Muses, must be best calculated for accomplishing this important duty." So says Mr Knox; *audi alteram partem.* The biographer of Young, in his account of the life of that poet, has the following observation: "Young was a poet: poets, with reverence be it spoken, do not make the best parents. Fancy and imagination seldom deign to stoop from their heights; always stoop unwillingly to the low level of common duties. Aloof from vulgar life, they pursue their rapid flight beyond the ken of mortals, and descend not to earth, but when obliged by necessity. The prose of ordinary occurrences is beneath the dignity of poetry." To this I have little to add. The observations formerly made may be used to combat the first part of the argument. Mr Knox's remark is, in part, a just one. "Superior attainments are certainly necessary for a mother. That extent of knowledge, and profundity of learning, ascribed by this author to the creature of his imagination, would, however, be found inimical to that minuteness of attention requisite for a woman engaged in this important duty. Shall she, whose mind is capable of grasping the movements of mighty empires, descend from her splendid height, to superintend the œconomy of a nursery? Shall she leave the pages of Cicero or Demosthenes, and attend to the caprices of an infant, whose language is tears, and whose rhetoric is squalling? Forbid it, glory, and forbid it, shame!" It is not my business to enquire into that dispute, mentioned with indignation, in the conclusion of this essay—Whether the female mind is capable of a degree of improvement, equal to that of the other sex? I only wish to show, that an equal degree of improvement ought not to be bestowed on it.

Knox—thou prince of pedagogues, hear me! Vex us no more with thy follies. Hie thee to that place where happiness dwells—to "the common room fire-side—that delightful retreat, where never female shewed her head, since the days of the founder." There spin, from thy prolific brain, thine essays, moral and literary—but harrass not with dogmas the daughters of beauty. Trust me, friend, they are a page too dazzling for thy feeble eyes. For his past offences, what punishment--tell me, Sophia—what punishment shall be awarded him? How hath he grieved thy soft ingenuous soul, with unnecessary sorrows! How hast thou mourned, that the wisdom of antiquity is for ever shut from thy view? And shall the caitiff escape with impunity? By thy tresses of auburn, I swear, the slightest sigh that heaves thy bosom is more precious than ten thousand Messrs Knoxes. To expiate his offence, may his wishes be granted! May a female wit be given to his arms! In yon poetic grove dejected and forlorn, see Seward lies. Quick let him be wafted to her retreat, and let him console her under the hideous prospect of endless virginity. She will meet his addresses with equal fire.

For oh! the fever'd languor of the eye *,
The restless blushes, the volupt'ous sigh;
The impatient haughtiness but half conceal'd,
The rage of pleasure in each glance reveal'd,

—these

* Miss Seward's Louisa.

—theſe declare how much ſhe pines for thoſe myſteries in which ſhe never can be initiated, but by the charitable aſſiſtance of a Mr Knox. They ſhall viſit us, my Sophia, in our charming retreat, when our happineſs is undiſturbed by the jealouſy of authors, and the queruloufneſs of female learning: and this formidable eſſayiſt ſhall curſe the hour in which he deſerted academic ſtudies, and bent his attention to the education of ladies, a ſubject for which he is as well qualified, as thou art for the elucidating of his favourite authors, *De Thou, & Joachimus Fortius Rengelbergius*.

FLORIZEL.

Opinions of Sarah Dutcheſs-Dowager of Marlborough *.

Queen Anne.

QUEEN ANNE had a perſon and appearance very graceful, ſomething of majeſty in her look. She was religious without any affectation; and certainly meant to do every thing that was juſt. She had no ambition; which appeared by her being ſo eaſy in letting King William come before her to the crown, after the King her father had followed ſuch counſels as made the nation ſee they could not be ſafe in their religion and laws, without coming to the extremities they did. And ſhe thought it more for her honour to be eaſy in it, than to make a diſpute, *who* ſhould have the crown firſt, that was taken from her father. And it was a great trouble to her to be forced to act ſuch a part againſt him, even for ſecurity, which was truly the caſe; and ſhe thought thoſe that ſhewed the leaſt ambition had the beſt character. Her journey to Nottingham was purely accidental, never concerted, but occaſioned by the great fright ſhe was in when the king returned from Saliſbury, upon which ſhe ſaid, ſhe would jump out at [the] window rather than ſtay and ſee her father; and upon that ſent to the Biſhop of London, to conſult with others what ſhe ſhould do; who came with the Earl of Dorſet, and carried her into the city, and from thence to Nottingham. She was never expenſive, but ſaved money out of her L. 50,000 a-year, which, after ſhe came to the crown, was paid to Prince George of Denmark, which was his by right. She made no fooliſh buildings, nor bought one jewel in the whole time of her reign.

She always paid the greateſt reſpect imaginable to King William and Queen Mary, and never inſiſted upon any one thing of grandeur more than ſhe had when her family was eſtabliſhed by King Charles II.; though after the Revolution ſhe was [heir-preſumptive to the crown, and after her ſiſter died, was] in the place of a Prince of Wales. The civil liſt revenue was not increaſed on her having the crown; and the late Earl of Godolphin, who was treaſurer, often ſaid, that from accidents in the cuſtoms, and not ſtraining things to hardſhips, the revenue did not come to, one year with another, more than L. 500,000; however, as it was found neceſſary to have a war, to ſecure England from the power of France, ſhe contributed, for the eaſe of the people, L. 100,000 out of her own revenue, to leſſen the expence, in one year: And out of her civil liſt ſhe paid a great many penſions given in former reigns, which have been ſince thrown upon the public; and ſhe gave the firſt fruits to be diſtributed among the poor clergy. She was extremely well bred, and treated her chief ladies and ſervants as if they had been her equals; and ſhe never refuſed to give charity, when there was the leaſt reaſon for any body to aſk it; and likewiſe paid the

* Publiſhed from original MSS.

the salaries of most of her sister's servants, notwithstanding the hardships she had suffered in King William's reign. And to shew how good a manager she was for the public, till a very few years before she died, she never had but L. 20,000 a-year for her privy purse, which was vastly less than any King or Queen ever had: But at the latter end of her reign it was increased to L. 26,000, which was much to her honour, because *that* is subject to no account: and, in comparison of other reigns, she was as saving in another office, that of the robes; for it will appear by all the records in the Exchequer, where the accounts were passed, that in nine years she spent only L. 32,050, including the coronation expence.

I have put these facts together, for materials for the person who writes the inscription. They are all true, notwithstanding what she was imposed upon in doing at the end of her reign. I never flattered any body living; and I cannot be suspected of it now the Queen is dead. But this character of the Queen is so much the reverse of Queen Caroline, that I think it will not be liked at court. And though I make no observations upon it, no body can read it without reflecting upon the difference of the proceedings in Queen Anne's reign and the present.

Queen Caroline.

1737. [Long minutes concerning her last illness and death.] Her death ascribed to a mortification proceeding from a concealed or neglected *hernia*.

1737. The Queen, in her illness, desired leave to make a will, which she did; gave no legacy to any one, but left all to his Majesty; and it was so worded, as I am told, that it takes in all she had in England, or in any banks in other countries. Her jewels are worth a great sum: But all that belonged to Queen Anne, Queen Mary, &c. she could no more dispose of, than of St James's or Hampton Court.

1737. Our Bishops are now about to employ hands to write the finest character that ever was heard of Queen Caroline; who, as it is not treason, I freely own I am glad she is dead. For to get money, that has proved of no manner of use to her, and to support Sir Robert in all his arbitrary injustice, [she] brought this nation upon the very brink of ruin, and has endangered the succession of her own family, by raising so high a dissatisfaction in the whole nation, as there is to them all, and by giving so much power to France, whenever they think fit to make use of it, who will have no mercy upon England.

1737. His Majesty thinks he has lost the greatest politician that ever was born, and one that did him the greatest service that was possible. Tho' every body else that knows the truth must acknowledge that it was quite the contrary.

1737-8. Upon her great understanding and goodness there comes out nauseous panegyrics every day, that make one sick, so full of nonsense and lies, that almost every body knows to be so; and there is one very remarkable from a Dr Clarke, in order to have the first Bishopric that falls, and I dare say he will have it, tho' there is something extremely ridiculous in the panegyric; for, after he has given her the most perfect character that ever any woman had or can have, he allows, that "she "had sacrificed her reputation to the "great and the many, to shew her "duty to the King, and her love to "her country." These are the clergyman's words exactly, which allows she did wrong things, but it was to please the King; which is condemning him. I suppose he must mean some good she did to her own country, for I know of none she did in England, unless raking from the public deserves a panegyric.

My Entail.

1738. I have made a settlement of a very great estate that is in my own power,

power, upon my grandson, John Spencer, and his sons: But they are all to forfeit it if any of them shall ever accept any employment, military or civil, or any pension from any King or Queen of this realm, and the estate is to go to others in the entail. This I think ought to please every body; for it will secure my heirs in being very considerable men. None of them can put on a fool's coat, and take posts from soldiers of experience and service, who never did any thing but kill pheasants and partridges. Their heirs may do great service to their country, and ought to be well received when they go to court, since they will have nothing to ask; for I would have them join with any King or Minister when they desire nothing but what is for the good of the nation and the King, who in truth must always have the same interest. But if we should happen ever to have a Prince that would rump members for giving their vote for the true interest of their country, in that case, a man with a great fortune may be very well contented to live at home, and keep much better company than I have known for many years at court. Here is another advantage in this to the Ministers, for if they should happen to do any thing that is good for the public, they will have the honour of it themselves; and it cannot be imputed to the wisdom of the great men, which they generally choose to put into great posts; and yet I do fancy that they will not like any thing of this sort; but as the money they give to people comes from the public, they had rather give something to all their supporters than to have them independent, so as that nothing can tempt them to do any thing but what is for the general good as well as their own: For I really think there are but few attendants that are the better for employments, unless such as have no estates at all.

Forebodings.

1738-9. I compare our situation to a ship near sinking, which can't be saved but by some extraordinary accident, which may possibly happen, but much more likely not to happen; and the generality of the world are so worthless, that I am pretty indifferent when the total ruin comes. As far as any thing depends upon me, I am sure nothing can hinder me from acting as I have done; and, as I can't live long, I am sure they can't do any thing that will quite starve me, who never had one grain of vanity in my inclination. —I think in all ages there have been as bad men, and some worse, than Sir Robert. 'Tis true he has impoverished and ruined his country for power and gain; but he could have done no mischief if men of great fortunes had not assisted him; which will certainly end in the ruin of themselves and their posterity; and I am sure I have not the honour to be acquainted, or to have the least intimacy with many that are not fools; and I know of no remedy against that.

1739. Though others had hopes, I never had any: though I find several people who are so sanguine as to think still that England will be saved, I cannot for my life see which way; since Sir Robert has all the money and power, and there are such number of fools and knaves to support whatever he has done or shall do.

1739. Sir Robert could not help a war; but he will manage it so that nothing shall be got by it, by ill conduct, after all the people's money is drained from them, which he will get and dispose of in corruption. I can't live long enough to want necessaries, having bought land enough to produce beef and mutton at very dear rates, which makes my produce very little in comparison of money at interest; but still 'twill support one, unless an entire conquest come. But, notwithstanding this, my jointure and more than half of my property remains, and I cannot help it, in the government funds and securities; and I expect in some time

to have them fpunged off, by faying, there is no help for the neceffity of the public but by ftopping payments, but that they will pay them when they can.—All this I firmly believe will happen.

George II.

1737. I know one, a confiderable man, who has feen the King once fince this misfortune, [the death of the Queen], and though it was one the King would have difguifed himfelf to if he could poffibly, he fays he never in his life [faw] any one fo dejected, and that he look'd as if he had loft his crown.

This puts me in mind of a thing that happened many years ago, which fhews that his Majefty will hear reafon when any one dares to fpeak it. There was a perfon that was refufed a thing by his Majefty and the Minifter, that he thought juftice and his due; upon which he defired an audience, in which he reprefented what he thought proper: But his Majefty looked very angry; and upon this the perfon, as he was going to fpeak, interrupted him, beggedhis pardon for it, and added,that he begged, before his Majefty gave him his anfwer, that he would confider he was a gentleman. This changed his Majefty's countenaace, and he complied with what was defired.

1737. His Majefty faw the Queen's women-fervants firft, which was a very mournful fight, for they all cried extremely; and his Majefty was fo affected that he began to fpeak, but went out of the room to recover himfelf; and yefterday he faw the foreign Minifters and his horfes, which I remember Dean Swift gives a great character of; and was forry to leave them for the converfation of his countrymen in England, and I think he was much in the right; for his Majefty preferred them after the women of the Queen's family.

Improvement of Land.

1736. No improvement of land, which I ever aimed at, has ever turned to better account than if one had purchafed fo much more new land to the old.

1737. I have very little opinion of *improvements;* more than to believe fomething is to be faved by a man's looking after his ftewards and bailiffs, to prevent, as much as they can, abufes.

Life and Death.

1737. I am a perfect cripple, and cannot poffibly hold out long; and as I have little enjoyment of my life, I am very indifferent about it.

1737. It is impoffible that one of my age and infirmities can live long; and one great happinefs there is in death, that one fhall never hear any more of any thing they do in this world.

1737-8. I think one can't leave the world in a better time than now, when there is no fuch thing as real friendfhip, truth, juftice, honour, or indeed any thing that is agreeable in life.

Chamber-Organ.

1737. I am now in purfuit of getting the fineft piece of mufic that ever was heard; it is a thing that will play eight tunes. Handel and all the great muficians fay that it is beyond any thing they can do; and this may be performed by the moft ignorant perfon: and when you are weary of thofe eight tunes, you may have them changed for any other that you like. This I think much better than going to an Italian opera, or an affembly. This performance has been lately put into a lottery, and all the Royal Family chofe to have a great many tickets, rather than to buy it, the price being I think L.1000, infinitely a lefs fum than fome Bifhopricks have been fold for. And a gentleman won it who I am in hopes will fell it, and if he will, I will buy it, for I cannot live to have another made, and I will carry it into the country with me.

Swift.

1736. Dean Swift gives the moft exact account of Kings, Minifters, Bifhops, and the Courts of juftice, that, is

is possible to be writ. He has certainly a vast deal of wit; and since he could contribute so much to the pulling-down the most honest and best intentioned Ministry that ever I knew, with the help only of Abigail, and one or two more; and has certainly stopt the finishing stroke to ruin the Irish in the project of the halfpence, in spite of all the Ministry could do;—I could not [cannot] help wishing, that we had had his assistance in the opposition;—for I could easily forgive him all the slaps he has given me and the Duke of Marlborough, and have thanked him heartily, whenever he would please to do good. I never saw him in my life; and though his writings have entertained me very much, yet I see he writes sometimes for interest: For in his books he gives my Lord Oxford as great a character as if he was speaking of Socrates or Marcus Antoninus. But, when I am dead, the reverse of that character will come out, with vouchers to it, under his own hand.

1736. The style of the Lords address puts me in mind of Dean Swift's account, who I am prodigiously fond of, which he gives of the manner in which he was introduced to the King of Luggnagg.

1736. I most heartily wish, that in this park I had some of the breed of those charming creatures Swift speaks of, and calls the *Houyhnhnms*, which I understand to be horses, so extremely polite, and which had all manner of good conversation, good principles, and that never told a lie, and charmed him so, that he could not endure his own country when he returned. He says there is a sort of creature there called *Yahoos*, and of the same species with us, only a good deal uglier; but they are kept tied up, and, by that glorious creature the horses, are not permitted to do any mischief. —I really have not been pleased so much a long time as with what he writes.

Prince of Wales.

1737. There has been an extraordinary quarrel at court.—The 31st of last month [July 1737] the Princess fell in labour. The King and Queen both knew that she was to lie in at St James's, where every thing was prepared. It was her first child, and so little a way to London that she thought it less hazard to go immediately away from Hampton Court to London, where she had all the assistance that could be, and every thing prepared, than to stay at Hampton Court, where she had nothing, and might be forced to make use of a country midwife. There was not a minute's time to be lost in debating this matter, nor in ceremonials; the Princess begging earnestly of the Prince to carry her to St James's in such a hurry that gentlemen went behind the coach like footmen. They got to St James's safe; and she was brought to-bed in one hour after. Her Majesty followed them as soon as she could, but did not come till it was all over. However, she expressed a great deal of anger to the Prince for having carried her away, though she and the child were very well. I should have thought it had been most natural for a grandmother to have said, she had been mightily frighted, but she was glad it was so well over. The Prince said all the respectful and dutiful things imaginable to her and to the King, desiring her Majesty to support the reasons which made him go away, as he did, without acquainting his Majesty with it. And I believe all human creatures will allow, that this was natural for a man not to debate a thing of this kind, nor to lose a minute's time in ceremony; which was very useless, considering, that it is a great while since the King has spoke to him, or taken the least notice of him. The Prince told her Majesty he intended to go that morning to pay his duty to the King; but she advised him not. This was Monday

day morning: and ſhe ſaid Wedneſday was time enough. And indeed I think in that her Majeſty was in the right. The Prince ſubmitted to her counſel, and only writ a very ſubmiſſive and reſpectful letter to his Majeſty, giving his reaſons for what he had done; and this converſation ended, that he hoped his Majeſty would do him the honour to be god-father to his daughter, and that he would be pleaſed to name *who* the god-mothers ſhould be; and that he left all the directions of the chriſtening entirely to his Majeſty's pleaſure. The Queen anſwered, that it would be thought the aſking the King to be god-father was too great a liberty, and adviſed him not to do it. When the Prince led the Queen to her coach, which ſhe would not have had him have done, there was a great concourſe of people; and, notwithſtanding all that had paſſed before, ſhe expreſſed ſo much kindneſs, that ſhe hugged and kiſſed him with great paſſion. The King after this ſent a meſſage in writing by my Lord Eſſex in the following words: "That his "Majeſty looked upon what the "Prince had done, in carrying the "Princeſs to London in ſuch a "manner, as a deliberate indignity "offered to himſelf and to the Queen, "and reſented it in the higheſt de-"gree, and forbid him the court."—All the ſycophants and agents of the court ſpread millions of falſities upon this occaſion, and all the language *there* was, that this was ſo great a crime that even thoſe that went with the Prince ought to be proſecuted. How this will end no body yet knows, at leaſt I am ſure I don't.—I have not heard yet of any chriſtening being directed: but for that I am in no manner of pain; for if it be never chriſtened, I think 'tis in a better ſtate than a great many devout people that I know.—What I apprehend moſt is, that the crown will be loſt long before this little Princeſs can poſſibly enjoy it.

1737. They have printed all the letters and meſſages that have paſſed between the King, Queen, Prince, and Princeſs.—This ſhews that the Miniſter thinks he has been in the right: but I don't find any reaſonable body of that opinion. And I obſerve, that they have left out in this printed paper a meſſage from his Majeſty to the Prince, which was brought in writing by my Lord Dunmore; in which they judged very well, for it was certainly a very odd one, as I think it is, my Lord Harrington's and Sir Robert Walpole's evidence concerning the Prince, ſome part of which is certainly untrue.—But upon the whole matter, no body can think that the Prince deſigned to hurt the Princeſs or the child, which was of much more conſequence to him than it can be to her Majeſty, who has ſo many children of her own. If the Prince had not had good ſucceſs in what he ventured to do, and if it had been a real crime, the ſubmiſſions the Prince has made, one would think, ought to have been accepted, for the omiſſion of a ceremony that was not natural for the Prince to think of at that time, and eſpecially as he was treated at court. But I ſuppoſe that Sir Robert did not think it a proper thing to ſay, that the true cauſe of the quarrel was, the Prince's ſeeming to have a deſire to have the whole of the allowance which the public pays for his ſupport; and indeed I do think it would not have been becoming to have given that reaſon for what has been done. But if I may preſume to give my opinion againſt Sir Robert's, I ſhould rather, in his place, have choſe to have ſent the meſſage to the Prince, that he muſt leave St James's, becauſe the King was diſſatisfied with his behaviour in general; and not have given ſuch ſtrange reaſons for the quarrel, and then publiſh a printed

account, with so many reflections upon the Prince, which no man that has any notion of honour can ever forgive *.

1727. The courtiers talk much of a reconciliation.—If there is any design to compass that, surely it was as ill judged as every thing else, to publish such a character of the King's son all over England.

Women.

1727-8 Women signify nothing unless they are the mistress [es] of a Prince or a first Minister, which I would not be if I were young; and I think there are very few, if any women, that have understanding or impartiality enough to serve well those they really wish to serve.

Law Intelligence Extraordinary.

CAME on lately at Westminster, before a Special Jury, a cause of great expectation, wherein GEORGE LEROY was the plaintiff, and GEORGE AP-PRINCE, a gentleman of Wales, was defendant. The action was brought to obtain satisfaction for a false imprisonment and cruelty. The substance of the evidence, on the part of the plaintiff, was, "That he, having a very considerable estate, amused himself in farming it; and that, contrary to the persuasions of his wife, having exposed himself too much during the late inclement season, he got a severe cold. The defendant, who is the plaintiff's near relation, and heir at law, under the pretence of regard and friendship, and an apprehension that the plaintiff's life and property were insecure, forcibly entered the plaintiff's house, locked up all his books, papers, accounts, and valuable effects; put seals on all his bureaus, drawers, and boxes; sent for doctors, surgeons, and apothecaries, who bled, purged, cupped, and covered the plaintiff with blisters, insisting that he had long been deprived of his reason, or he would never have kept such a set of servants, so unworthy of all confidence, and yet could never be prevailed on to part with one of them."

On the part of the defendant, it was admitted by the counsel, that what was alledged by the plaintiff was true; but, in justification of his conduct, urged, "that his interposition proceeded, not only from his excess of friendship for the plaintiff, but also from a necessary attention

* I cannot discover what was the real cause of this unhappy quarrel. The Duchess seems to think that it originated in the motion for the augmenting of the Prince's revenue. It is probable that the whole matter will be explained to posterity, should the memoirs of Lord Hervey ever see the light. I have reason to believe that they are written with great freedom.—And here I must be permitted to observe, that they who suppress such memorials of modern times, do all that in them lies to leave the history of the eighteenth century in darkness.—In the *sixteenth* century it was the fashion to preserve original papers, in the *eighteenth* it is the fashion to destroy them. Hence we know more of the reign of Queen Elisabeth than we do of George I. For example, *Who* were engaged in the original project of the Rebellion in the year 1715? *What* was the cause of that unnatural schism of the Whig administration in the reign of George I.? *Who* were the projectors of the Swedish invasion in 1718? and were the letters of Count Gillenbourgh decyphered by the science of Dr Willis, and without the aid of the cypher itself? Is there any history of the South Sea scheme authenticated by original papers? Were we to proceed to our own times, fifty queries of the like nature might be put, and, as matters now stand, not one of them would receive a probable solution.

attention to his own interest, being tenant in tail to the plaintiff's estate, which was stript of every tree, and in all respects running to ruin:—That he had observed amongst the servants, a determined resolution to plunder the plaintiff, who was a remarkably easy, good-natured man, and deaf to all the defendant's persuasions to dismiss them:—That he could not but conceive the plaintiff very unfit to manage his affairs, and therefore a proper object of the Court of Chancery's care.—He represented to the plaintiff, that GEORGE, his groom, was a drunken old fellow, sold all his oats, and starved the horses, and was never out of an ale-house; that Mr BRYDGES, the House-steward, was the meanest creature on earth, and, instead of maintaining that hospitality his master had recommended, had put the family to board-wages, and such a set of *Chambermaids* were never seen; but as he sometimes set them to very *dirty work*, and often obliged them to be up very late at night, it is imagined he could get no better; but even to those he gave excessive wages, and always preferred such as were least addicted to *talking*;—That the most dangerous person about him was Mr *William*, the Head-bailiff, who had the entire management of all his pecuniary concerns, received his rents, and paid the workmen—an artful, smooth-tongued, insinuating young fellow, not thirty years old, and a great favourite of all the servants: That the defendant had good reason to suspect he had formed a design to get him *disinherited*: he certainly had long been in the plaintiff's good graces, had a great influence over him, and once prevented his master's paying a *few trifling debts* that the defendant had contracted with his tradesmen, and upon many occasions had behaved very rudely to the defendant.

"From these circumstances he had conceived his relation, the plaintiff, to be in very dangerous hands, and that his own *hereditary rights* were daily suffering injury, and therefore thought it strictly justifiable to take such measures, as he hoped the Court and Jury would sanctify by finding a verdict in his favour."

To this defence and justification, the plaintiff's counsel replied, "That if they could have been persuaded that the part the defendant had taken was his own, and actually proceeded from those motives his counsel had suggested, this action had never been brought, and even now, would be abandoned: but there exists the most convincing proof, that it was the work of a most dangerous and alarming gang, who have not the fear of God before their eyes, but in all they conceive and do, are instigated by the devil. It has been the peculiar misfortune of this young gentleman to have been the associate and dupe of this abandoned crew, who, taking advantage of his strong passion for Welsh ale, have never failed to ply him well with the brown mug, and then procure his authority to say and do whatever may forward their infamous schemes.—Sometimes they assert that he insists on an absolute *unrestrained right* to take possession of the plaintiff's estate before he is dead; but, finding that doctrine not perfectly sound, it was qualified by a proviso, "that the *courts of law* would approve of it."—The plaintiff's counsel added, that it was at all times very painful to touch reproachfully on any characters; but, as the defendant's counsel had treated the plaintiff's honest servants so very illiberally, he thought a little retaliation strictly justifiable; and he could not help lamenting, that a young gentleman, well born, well educated, and generally acknowledged to be of a very amiable disposition, should have ever fallen into the hands of such a class of men as his present associates, who have brought him to *extreme poverty and disgrace*; men of mean birth, without fortunes, existing, some by their wits, some by horse-racing, cock-fighting, pricking the belt, swindling, and

and every species of gambling. It was these men had planned the design of locking up the poor old gentleman, dismissing every servant about him, intruding themselves into their places, and swearing the plaintiff was out of his senses, because he would not take them into his service: but, happily for him, *all* his doctors were not let into the secret; and the plaintiff, being restored to perfect health, thinks it incumbent on him to resent the outrage. It is impossible but the Jury must find a verdict for the plaintiff; but, though no demand can compensate for such attrocious behaviour, yet the plaintiff does not seek for recompence, but exemplary punishment. He too well knows, that his successor is stript by his good *friends* of every penny, and is some thousands in debt; and if a verdict for even small damages was given, he must go to the King's Bench. He therefore submitted to the defendant's counsel, a generous proposition, "That a verdict should be taken for 100 l. only, with a stay of execution, on condition that the defendant should ask pardon in the Morning Post and Herald, express his concern for having been influenced by such advisers, and declare his determined resolution to keep honester company." The defendant's counsel most readily accepted the humane offer, and the verdict was taken accordingly. Counsel for the plaintiff, the Attorney and Solicitor General; for the defendant, Mr Erskine, Mr Douglas, Mr Anstruther, and Mr Adam.

Abbas *and* Sohry: *A Persian Tale.*

ABBAS, king of Persia, like many other potentates, was surnamed the *Great*, on account of the calamities he had brought on his neighbours. He was passionately fond of women and of war; which last he waged as much for the purpose of filling his seraglio, as for extending his dominions. Every king who had a handsome wife, or a kingdom in the neighbourhood of that of Persia, was put on the defence of both. Abbas, however, was as ready to grow cool as he was to be inflamed, and in love as well as in war, one conquest only served to incite him to the acquisition of another.

There was at that time in the country of Imiretta a young princess named *Sohry*, sister of the sovereign of the country. Her beauty was such as baffled all description even in the language of the east. The Persian poets vied with one another in celebrating her charms; but the language of hyperbole, so natural to them in this instance, came short of the truth.

The charming Sohry lived under the care of a mother, who almost equalled her in beauty, and who was not above sixteen years older; that is, she was but about two and thirty years of age. That princess, after having been queen, had taken refuge in the bosom of religion; a state which in Persia does not oblige the devotees to take up their abode in a cloister: they remain in their own houses, and are at liberty to go abroad without censure or reproach.

Sohry, though confined by no vow, devoted herself to a most rigorous solitude. She inhabited, and never quitted a certain castle, inaccessible to every stranger except the prince of Georgia, to whom she had been betrothed at the age of five years. He would already have been her husband, had not a bloody war engaged him, and had not his acquaintance with the character of Abbas retarded their union. Thus were the charms of Sohry known only to this prince, her mother, the king her brother, and the women who attended her. Even these women, except one, were ignorant of her quality. So many precautions were taken in order to conceal this young beauty from the researches of the king of Persia, who was vain enough to admit no women into his seraglio under the rank of princesses. Another expedient was fallen upon, still more injurious to the fair captive than the most tedious solitude: this was, to give out that her extreme ugliness made it necessary to withdraw her from the public eye.

The

The truth of this report was never queſtioned. It was known to be the caſe with regard to her elder ſiſter, an object really as diſguſting as Sohry was alluring. They had even publiſhed that this princeſs was dead, though in reality ſhe was ſtill alive. The reaſon of ſuch a proceeding was this : uglineſs in that nation is looked upon as a diſgrace, and is not ſo frequent there as extreme beauty in other countries.

Sohry was inconſolable at the injury offered to her charms. She did not know that a certain perſon was planning the means of undeceiving both the public and the king of Perſia. This was *Zomrou*, formerly miniſter to the late king of Imiretta, and who once had conceived hopes of becoming father-in-law to the reigning king. Tired with vain expectation, he at laſt venturned to aſk the king to marry his daughter, or not to live with her as if ſhe were his wife. His majeſty replied in the ſtile of an abſolute monarch, and Zomrou retired in diſcontent.

He thought it beſt however to diſſemble for ſome time ; but at laſt he breathed nothing but revenge, and choſe Abbas for his avenger. He was induced to this by the known character of that prince. The ſtation which he had hitherto maintained at the court of Imiretta had given him opportunities of informing himſelf with regard to certain points that were a myſtery to every other individual. He knew that the uglineſs of Sohry was but reputed, and he knew the motive for publiſhing it to the world. He imparted his diſcoveries to Abbas, and endeavoured to exaggerate the charms of Sohry, tho' he drew a picture very inferior to the original. In a word, he ſpared nothing to irritate him againſt the brother, and to inflame him with deſire for the ſiſter.

His ſchemes ſucceeded. Abbas, among his eunuchs, poſſeſſed an Italian, whom it might be ſaid Nature herſelf had deſtined for the ſeraglio. He was one of thoſe beings who, for the injuries that are done them, receive nothing in return but a voice more or leſs feminine. This involuntary ſongſter joined a talent for painting to his ſkill in muſic. He went alternately from the lute to the pallet ; from the ſetting of a hymn to the portrait of a Venus. He found, however, that theſe united labours did not bring him within the reach of fortune, and he reſolved to ſeek her in other climes. Chance conducted him to Iſpahan, where his quality of eunuch recommended him to the king of Perſia, and the character of this prince ſoon furniſhed him with the means of exerting all his talents.

Often had this new confident made Abbas acquainted with the moſt beautiful princeſſes of the neighbouring countries, without his being under the neceſſity of quitting the court for that purpoſe. A ſtratagem of the ſame kind was to be put in practice with regard to the princeſs of Imiretta. Our eunuch accordingly is again diſguiſed in the habit of a woman, and conducted with expedition to the capital of that country. There he finds Zomrou, and obtains from him the neceſſary information ; and Abbas had furniſhed him with the means of ſurmounting every obſtacle which gold can remove. He laviſhed it on all who could be in any degree uſeful to him, but none of them could penetrate his views. He took particular care never to name the princeſs to thoſe who lived in the neighbourhood of her reſidence, being well aſſured that neither they nor even the greater part of the women who attended her, knew her by that title. He was told that the young recluſe appeared very often at a window that looked into a wide and beautiful plain. He was charmed with this diſcovery, repaired to the place deſcribed, and made choice of a little arbour that ſeemed fit for his purpoſe, and which was but little diſtant from the window. Here he placed himſelf, and waited till the Princeſs ſhould deign to let herſelf be ſeen.

To this ſhe had little repugnance, as may be eaſily believed of a young beauty. Even when contemplating her charms in a glaſs, ſhe has often ſighed at being their only beholder. The gardens, where ſhe had no other companions but the flowers, the ſtatues, and her women, became inſipid to her : and ſhe never viewed them but with liſtleſſneſs and languor. The eunuch, without quitting her ſtation endeavoured to draw her towards the plain. This he accompliſhed by means of a few Italian airs, which he ſung with all the expreſſion in his power. His voice no ſooner reached the ear of the princeſs, than ſhe ran to her favourite window. She was in raptures, and eager to ſee the ſongſtreſs; for ſhe imagined, although with ſome regret, that the voice could belong to none but a woman. On his part, the eunuch ſtood at the entrace of the arbour, and there, without being ſeen more than he wiſhed, and without ceaſing to ſing, took out his pencil, and traced the features of the princeſs, who, enchanted

with

with his voice, neither thought of interrupting him nor of retiring. Now the portrait was finished, and the eunuch still singing, still favoured with a hearing. At last satisfied with his success, he puts up his pencil, and gives over his song. The princess orders the pretended songstress to be brought before her. This was just what the disguised ambassador, wanted. He is introduced, graciously received, praised for his voice, and obliged to answer a multitude of questions.

He had foreseen them, and was not embarrassed. Sohry asked him, among other things, if the princesses in his country were handsome, and the princes very amorous. "Madam, replied the false female, none of those princesses equal you in beauty, and all the princes of the earth would become amorous, if they had the happiness of a glimpse of your perfections." Sohry replied with a sigh. The eunuch was too intelligent not to divine the cause of that sigh. To be the most beautiful woman in the East, and to be reputed ugly; to be only eighteen years of age, without the very shadow of liberty; to have only one lover, who seldom pays his court without the hope of another,—is surely enough to extort a sigh from the most indifferent. Sohry was not one of those:—she did not content herself with merely sighing.

She proposed to the false songstress to remain some time in her service; the cunning eunuch, though this was what he most wished for, dissembled, started some slight difficulties, and behaved with so much art, that he increased the desire of Sohry, and dissipated all the suspicions of those about her. At last he yielded. His employment at first consisted in singing to the princess, and in giving her a few lessons in music. To her other perfections she joined a voice as much calculated to charm the ear as her features were made for enchanting the eye. The eunuch took care to sing the most tender airs, and it was these she learnt with the greatest facility. She made him at the same time explain the words for which these airs were composed; and the artful translator never failed to give them a meaning, suited to the situation of the princess, and to the sentiments he wished to inspire her with. Hence followed fresh sighs, fresh distractions, and fresh questions. At last he seized a favourable moment to hazard a proof of another kind; he placed a portrait of Abbas before the eyes of the princess of Imiretta.

Sohry had often talked to him of the tediousness of perpetual solitude, and of the difficulty of overcoming the chagrin it occasioned. "I see but one way of avoiding it, said she, and to you I am indebted for it. But one cannot always hear fine singing, nor can one always sing ones self." "There are other talents, replied the Italian, from which as much pleasure may be reaped, and which are with as much facility acquired. If music makes you imitate or surpass the songs of the birds in your groves, painting, for instance, will teach you to imitate the birds themselves, and many other objects, still more interesting than birds." "How! replied she eagerly, do you possess the talent you speak of?" "My late husband, replied the intrepid Italian, was a perfect master of it; I have preserved the portrait of a Persian prince which he painted during a visit he made to Ispahan."

Scarcely had he pronounced these wards, ere the princess wished to see the portrait; and scarcely had he produced it, ere she was struck with it, gazed on it with attention, seemed moved, praised with warmth the art of the painter, and admired still more, but without saying so, the features he had imitated. She inquired, however, whom the picture represented, and if the painter had not flattered his original? "I know, said the eunuch, that his great talent lay in hitting a likeness, but I know not from whom this portrait was taken. A sudden death prevented my husband from communicating this information to me at his return to Cairo, when he left me. A certain person, acquainted with the Court of Persia, once told me that he recognized in it the features of the celebrated Abbas, but this I have never yet been able to ascertain, and probably never will."

The agent of Abbas did not think it prudent to appear more knowing, for fear of being suspected. He knew, besides, that uncertainty would only serve to imitate the impatience of the princess, and that this impatience once satisfied would lead to a sentiment still more lively. He was not deceived. Sohry fell into a melancholy and profound reverie. The portrait in her hands interested her heart; what impression then would not the original make? What a pity would it be if this prince was no longer in existence? and if he were still alive, what greater pity

pity that she should not know who he is, and that she should be unknown to him. All these thoughts successively agitated the mind of the captive princess. She asked the eunuch a new question.—"Is your husband's art, said she, totally unknown to you?" He replied, that he had often practised it, and with some success. "You can then, said the princess, imitate the figure of this lap dog?" "You shall judge, said he, and immediately took out his crayons, and drew the little favourite." "'Tis pity, said Sohry, to employ your talents in painting animals. I have a slave who amuses me with her follies as much as one woman can amuse another; her figure has something original in it; and I would like, by means of your art, to preserve a copy of it." "Most willingly," said the eunuch, who saw to what the gradation would lead, and had already asked permission to send for the slave. "Stay, said the princess, all this ought to remain a secret between us two, and the most zealous slave may become indiscreet. Cannot you, continued she blushing a little, exercise your talents on another object? for instance, cannot you paint me as well as her?" "Madam, replied the eunuch, transported with joy, but still cautious to dissemble, I doubt whether my art can extend so far; but I will do my utmost to imitate those features which nature herself would be at a loss to produce a second time."

Sohry then consulted him on the attitude that would become her most. "That, replied he, which is most natural to you: it is no more in your power to appear without grace than without beauty." He then began the portrait, which was indeed the principal object of his mission, and which he had once believed he would only be able to perform by stealth, and at a distance. His zeal to serve his master, and the opportunities afforded him by the princess made him surpass himself on this important occasion. His work seemed the portrait of the most beautiful of women, and yet it did not equal its model. However it satisfied the person from whom it was taken, a circumstance that rarely happens. He wished to make an exact copy of this picture, but the princess saved him the trouble by permitting him to carry the original off with him to his native country. It may serve perhaps, said she, to make me better known there than I am here, where I must never hope to be seen. She pronounced these words with a faultering voice and swimming eyes. This was sufficient to determine the eunuch to speak somewhat plainer than he had hitherto done, though still in the emblematical style; a kind of language which his art allowed him to use at pleasure. He had not time, however, to make a long use of it. The approaching arrival of the prince of Georgia obliged him to precipitate his retreat. Sohry herself did not mean to retard it. But, at his departure, he humbly intreated her to accept another production of his art, a picture, of which she might one day behold the original. At these words the false Italian presented the princess with a pacquet well folded and sealed, then hastily bid her farewell, and departed.

Sohry supposed that this was some other portrait, not less anonymous than the first which the stranger had given her. She breaks the seal, opens the cover, and sees a picture composed of two figures. But what was her surprize when she found one of them represent herself, and the other the person whose portrait had formerly been shewn to her! This last figure was represented at the feet of Sohry, offering her a sceptre. The prince moreover was adorned with all the attributes of a monarch and of a conqueror: but that was all, nothing tended to discover his name or his country. The agent of Abbas had kept himself on the reserve as to this point, not thinking he had authority to go further, and even afraid of going too far.

"It is Abbas, said Sohry to herself; more than one reason induces me to believe it. But, alas! if it be he, how many obstacles present themselves to his views. Will he not be too late in explaining himself? Will it be possible for me to hear him, or shall I be allowed to listen to his vows?"

These reflections were ever uppermost in her thoughts, and never failed to make her sad. In the mean time, the eunuch arrives at Ispahan, informs the monarch of what he had done, and exhorts him to go in person to finish a work so happily begun. The portrait of Sohry was a more effectual incitement to Abbas than the reasonings of the eunuch. It appeared to him so beautiful, that he suspected it to be a flattering likeness. The painter, on the other hand, protested, that on this occasion art fell far short of nature, and the confession did not proceed from a false modesty; Sohry was as superior in beauty to her portrait as it was to all the beauties in the Seraglio of Abbas.

It was not long before an envoy from the

the Sophi appeared at the Court of Imiretta. This embassy had a double object, to demand Sohry in the name of Abbas, or to declare war in case of a refusal. He himself considered this refusal as certain. An ancient, and consequently an implacable hatred, subsisted between the two nations. Wretched policy fomented this animosity, and the princes, who seldom approved of it, durst not venture to discourage it.

But *Disvald*, the brother of Sohry, did not attempt a reconciliation, for he was the personal enemy of Abbas. As he was determined to reject the demand, he took measures with the prince of Georgia, his future brother-in-law, to resist the King of Persia. At the same time they endeavoured to impose on the envoy. They talked to him of the pretended ugliness of Sohry; and in order the better to convince him of it, her elder sister was presented to him, a person inexpressibly deformed, and who had nothing in common with her sister but the name. The envoy was astonished that a king could resolve to invade a country for such a conquest.

The true Sohry, she who was the occasion of all this trouble, was the least acquainted with what was going on. She continued to live, and to pine in solitude. The picture which the eunuch had left her was her only delight. Is it possible, she would say, that Abbas does not believe me so hideous an object as the public represents me? Of this she endeavoured to persuade herself, and it was an idea that never failed to bring comfort to her mind in the hour of dejection. At this time suddenly arrives the prince of Georgia, engrossed with an idea which, though very afflicting to her, he imagines calculated to secure her peace. He came to request from his future spouse a sacrifice which will always appear exceedingly disagreeable to a beautiful woman, and even to an ugly one; this was to write a letter with her own hand to the king of Persia, declaring that she was possessed of no beauty or attractions. The proposal made the princess shudder, thinking it meant to abuse her docility and to carry the ascendent over her even to tyranny, she observed a profound and sullen silence. *Taymuras* reiterates the request, and is surprized at being obliged to do so.—"How, said Sohry at last, with much emotion, is not my reputation for ugliness sufficiently established? Do not I pass for a model of deformity?" "The king of Persia, replied he with chagrin, does not seem convinced of it. He has sent an ambassador to demand you, and he is on the road to second that demand at the head of an hundred thousand men."

This reply made the princess a second time thoughtful. The displeasure which had been evident on her countenance seemed to give place to other emotions, and Taymuras even thought he perceived an expression of joy. This was a new motive for persisting in his request. "Alas! said the Princess, what end would my letter serve? would it undeceive Abbas better than the report of a whole nation?" A line under your own hand, said Taymuras, would be more convincing than the reports of all Asia. A woman who owns the want of beauty, may well be believed.

Sohry objected again that her handwriting could not be better known to Abbas than her person, which he had never seen. But Taymuras informed her, that a letter which she had written to him upon a certain occasion had fallen into the hands of the king of Persia, and had made him acquainted with her handwriting and their reciprocal engagements. "As to your beauty, said he, perhaps Abbas may have discovered something that makes him give credit to it; perhaps it is merely a supposition, but it is a supposition that we must endeavour to do away."

This was the very circumstance however which Sohry wished to be confirmed, and therefore before she could be induced to consent to the Prince's request, it was necessary to procure the absolute orders of the queen her mother. "Well then, said she to Taymuras, with an emotion of chagrin which she could not restrain, let us see in what terms this extraordinary letter is to be conceived. I shall write, and if you please you may dictate in your own words." Most willingly, said Taymuras, and thus he began:

"The princess of Imiretta to the King
"of Persia:—

"I understand, Sir, that you have
"formed the design of tearing me from
"my country, from my family, and from
"the Prince to whom I am betrothed.
"But this you shall never accomplish
"with my consent.——" The princess wrote, without interruption, the first sentence of the letter; but the words of the second were repeated three times before she could write them. Taymuras thus proceeded; "I must likewise repeat

"to you what common fame must already "have made you acquainted with; that "I am little worthy of any excess of at- "tachment:" These last words also made Sohry hesitate. "Is this the way, said she to the prince, that you mean to express it?" "Exactly," replied he; and he repeated the same words, to which he added the following; I have "fewer attractions than the most ordi- "nary women of this country." "You must certainly think me very hateful," interrupted she again. "Ah! you are but too divine, said Taymuras. But would you wish to appear so in the eyes of the king of Persia! Alas! if this is the case, drop the pen, and shew yourself to him." Sohry, tho' with a trembling hand, wrote what the prince had already dictated, and thought her task was over, but he added, "It is the total pri- "vation of every charm that forces me "to retire from the world; would I "could fly from myself!" Each of these words made the princess shudder. The alteration of her countenance indicated the indignation of her soul. The pen fell from her hand. "Indeed, Sir, said she, rising with evident displeasure, I think you will never grow tired in describing my imperfections" How! Madam! said Taymuras, even this ideal portrait of you is hardly sufficient to set my mind at ease." "Well! said Sohry, in the same strain, I will help you to finish the picture; then going up to a mirror, she began to examine her features one by one, and looking at Taymuras with an ironical but indignant air, "Come, said she, let us begin with these eyes; no doubt they must be painted little, and round, and sunk; without life, without expression." "Excellent!" said Taymuras." This mouth is large, continued she; these lips thin, and parched, and livid." "Nothing can be better." replied he;—These teeth are black and rotten, this complexion pale and bloached, and the whole countenance disgustful and hideous." "Ay, says Taymuras, there's a picture that will do for the king of Persia," and Sohry actually wrote all these things; not, however, without murmuring against him who imposed on her the task. Accordingly the letter is dispatched to the Sophi, who is confounded at the contents. He compares the handwriting with that of the letter which had formerly fallen into his hands, and finds them perfectly similar. "And does Sohry herself, says he, confess the want of beauty? how can I disbelieve her? And if I give credit to her confession, undoubtedly the eunuch is an egregious impostor." The Italian is instantly sent for, and commanded to reconcile the two pictures, that which he had made of Sohry in his portrait, and that which she herself had drawn in her letter.

Every line that the eunuch read augmented his astonishment. He knew the hand of the princess, but did not recognize any traces of her in the burlesque details this letter was filled with. This was not all, for at this very instant arrive dispatches from the envoy, which confirm in every point the intelligence contained in the letter. The eunuch, astonished, falls at the feet of the monarch. "I swear by the commentary of Ali, said the renegado Italian, that the portrait which I put into the hands of your majesty is still much inferior to the charms of the princess of Imirretta, and that the description she here gives of herself is only to impose on you, as your ambassador has been imposed on.

"What! cried the Sophi with indignation, does this woman, so beautiful as you represent her, willingly intend to make people think her ugly! there are but few examples of such a conduct, and I am determined to know the truth." Accordingly, that very day he gave orders to march a numerous army to the frontiers of Imiretta, and a short while afterwards he proceeded to take upon himself the command. He took care to have the eunuch in his train for two reasons; that he might have an opportunity of justifying his assertions; or if he did not, that he might suffer the punishment the Sophi should think due to his crime.

It was soon known at the court of Imiretta that there was a necessity, either for fighting or for producing to the king of Persia a princess as beautiful as he expected to find. They resolved upon the first alternative, as to her whose beauty occasioned so much confusion, she would willingly have inclined to the last. It is rare that a woman takes amiss the efforts which any lover makes to obtain her; and Sohry was pleased that her letter had not obstructed those of Abbas.

The kings of Imiretta and Georgia had joined their forces. They had fortified themselves, and waited for Abbas, who did not make them wait long. He attacked them without hesitation or delay, the combat was obstinate and bloody. The two allied kings behaved, the one like a sovereign who defended his terri-

tories, the other as a lover who guards his mistress. But the efforts of Abbas were not less great, and they were more successful. He gained a compleat victory; destroyed, or put to flight the enemy's army, and pursued the two chiefs to the very city where the brother of Sohry kept his court.

Instructed by the eunuch that the princess had her residence elsewhere, he instantly proceeded to the spot, while his troops blockaded the capital. He arrives, and is informed that Sohry actually lives in the house. One may easily conceive the excess of his joy and of his impatience. He commands them to lead him to the princess, and is obeyed. But what does he see? an object as hideous as he expected to find enchanting, the true model of the portrait expressed in the letter he had received before he left Ispahan: in a word, the deformed princess who had already been shewn to his ambassador. The two kings having been informed of the residence of a stranger for some time with Sohry, had taken the alarm, and had substituted in this manner the older for the younger princess. Abbas asked his prisoner some questions, and the answers he received increased his displeasure. They were perfectly conformable to the letter he supposed to be written by her, and he remained persuaded that Sohry, so famous for her beauty, ought to have been so only for her deformity. "I have nothing to reproach her with, said Abbas, she is still more ugly than she pretended to be. As for you, miscreant, addressing himself to the eunuch, what justifies her condemns you: this excessive deformity is your sentence of death."

"Great king, cried the eunuch, falling at the feet of the Sophi, will your majesty give me leave to clear up this mystery? for there is one in this affair which I cannot at present comprehend. That there lived here, and that here I painted the fairest object of the creation, is most certain; that she still exists I believe, and will answer for it with my life, which you can take to-morrow as well as today, if I shall be found to deserve death. I beseech you to return to the capital, and carry on the siege with vigour; its capture may, perhaps put into your power a prize infinitely more precious."

Zomrou could in part have unfolded this enigma; but he had allowed his designs to escape him, and was narrowly watched by order of the two kings ever since the arrival of Abbas. For this reason it was not in his power to be more useful to that envoy than to the Sophy himself. Abbas then took a double resolution, to press the siege of the city, and to send emissaries about the country, who were to bring to him all the women who had the least resemblance of the portrait made by the eunuch.

The siege was carried on with so much vigour, that in a few days one half of the works, and of its garrison, were destroyed: but the courage of the two kings continued the same. They would neither surrender nor deliver up the princess, whom Abbas would have preferred to all the cities in their dominions. She was not, however, in the capital. Sohry, unknown and disguised, inhabited a place so little made for her, that it was hardly probable she would ever be sought for in it. There she sighed over those charms that occasioned the calamities of her country. But almost certain that Abbas is the person whose image she adores in secret, she dares not call him oppressor. She even feels, that if she could be satisfied of this, he would in her mind be compleatly justified.

In the mean time, the danger of the capital continued to increase, it was every instant threatned with conquest, pillage, and desolation. The king was resolved to hazard every thing, except seeing his mistress and his mother exposed to the consequences that attend the assault of a town; and he took the resolution of contriving their escape by a way which he thought sure. But Abbas had taken precautions still more sure. A few moments after they left the town, the two fugitives were brought before him.

It has already been mentioned, that the mother of Sohry was only inferior in beauty to Sohry herself; there was, besides, that sort of resemblance between them which may often subsist without an equality of charms. For this reason the portrait which the eunuch had painted, a portrait very inferior to the original, resembled the mother more than the daughter. Abbas at first sight was deceived, and considered the enigma as explained. The beauty of his captive even made such an impression on him, that he was not anxious to make any further search, and he even consented to justify the eunuch. But this last was not satisfied. He assured his master that this princess had never sat for the portrait in question, and that undoubtedly its original still existed.

"If

"If this is so, madam, said Abbas to the mother of Sohry, you see what alone can and ought to constitute your ransom. An object that resembles you can alone be substituted in your place. You shall reign in my seraglio, or your daughter shall occupy the rank which I here offer you. I cannot renounce the one without obtaining the other."

This discourse made the fair prisoner tremble. She conjured the Sophi to reflect on the vow by which she was bound, a vow which no longer permitted her to dispose of herself. Such a consideration can have but little weight in the mind of a disciple of Aly, and accordingly Abbas hardly paid any attention to it. "It depends entirely on yourself, madam, said he, both to keep your vows and to favour my wishes. Let the amiable Sohry enjoy the advantage which you despise, at least do not expect that I should endeavour to extinguish the sincerest and most ardent love, while you seem the slave of unjust hatred and vain prejudice."

Abbas who had hitherto scarcely observed Fatima (the daughter of Zomrou) now took notice of her as she was beginning to murmur at his inattention. Abbas acknowledged the love of Disvald to be well placed; for Fatima had charms that would have enslaved himself, had not Sohry been her rival. He immediately formed the design of threatning the king of Imiretta with transferring his affection from Sohry to Fatima.

This stratagem succeeded. Disvald was no sooner informed of the captivity of his mistress and of his mother, than he thought seriously of exchanging them for his sister. At this moment the emissaries of Abbas brought him a young person habited as a slave, and infinitely more handsome than the portrait they had seen. "It is Sohry," exclaimed the eunuch; "It is my daughter," cried the mother of Disvald." It is Abbas, cried, at the same time, the pretended slave, and fainted away.

Abbas, in transport, dazzled with such supereminent beauty, and not knowing how to account for the swoon and the exclamation, ordered instant assistance to the princess. In the midst of some unavoidable agitations, a box concealed in her garment fell upon the ground. Abbas, thinking he knew it, took it up, opened it, and found it to contain his portrait. At the sight of this all his Asiatic pride disappeared. He fell at the feet of his captive: "Adorable Sohry, cried he, even when flying from my person, do you fly with my image? Is it true, then, that you avoided me only from constraint? Ah! cease to disguise your sentiments, and deign to reap the fruits of sincerity. I shall hardly consider them as half rewarded by all my tenderness and all my power."

Now Sohry raises her eyes, and sees the picture which the eunuch had left with her at this moment realized. She sees the haughty Abbas at her feet in the attitude in which she had so often contemplated him in the picture. An emotion of joy, which she strove to conceal, joined to a confusion the effect of modesty, heighten her beauty. The queen her mother appearing, her confusion is encreased. But an envoy from the king of Imiretta comes to put an end to their reciprocal embarrassment. He came to propose, in exchange for the two first captives, her who is already in the power of the Sophi: the exchange, however, was accepted; peace was established, and, what is still more, every cause of war extinguished.

The heart of Abbas was so expanded with his happiness, that he sought to impart it to all around him. He encreased the dominions of the king of Imiretta, who espoused Fatima: he gave his own sister in marriage to the prince of Georgia; he shared with Sohry his whole power, and she reigned without a rival in his heart. The eunuch was provided for, and Sohry, by fixing the heart of her husband, secured to the neighbouring princes their states, their wives, and their repose.

POETRY.

MARY's GHOST. AN ELEGY.

Scene—the hall where David Rizzio *was murdered, in the palace of* Holyrood-house.

OCTOBER's sun, in western glory mild,
Gleam'd beauteous o'er Edina's antique spires,
A thousand murmurs hum,—the smoke floats wild;
Ah, me what different scenes surround these fires!
Silent and sad my pensive steps I tend,
Where Scotia's monarchs oft have trod before,

To

To view the Gothic arch, majeſtic bend;
The damps of ages chill the column hoar.

The ſhade fell quivering from the darken'd hill;
Now reſts the herd, nor ſings the herdſman more:
The miſts deſcend, and Nature's voice is ſtill,
Save diſtant Fortha's hollow murmuring ſhore.

A pleaſing awe involv'd my riſing ſoul,
Through darken'd time I gaz'd,—each turret frown'd
Methought I heard a voice!—'twas but the owl;
Again my trembling eye halflook'd around.

Again the voice! th' adjacent door creak'd drear;
A feeble gleam ſcarce ſhow'd the diſmal wall;
Scarce ſhow'd a female form, ſolemn! appear,
And ſlowly float along the length'ning hall.

Her ſhape majeſtic, but her look was love,
Her ſpeaking eye the embryo thought expreſs'd;
Around her brow the regal chaplet wove,
The ſacred croſs beam'd ardent on her breaſt.

Sudden ſhe ſtartled at the bloody ground:
Theſe ſacred ſtones ſhall moulder and decay,
Thy failing blaze, thy virtues ſleep profound:
Shall rolling ages wear that ſtain away?

Ah! no: while Mary's name, and Mary's woes
The hoary ſire to liſt'ning youth ſhall tell,
The rude eulogium with a ſigh ſhall cloſe,
"Yet Mary wept when worthleſs Rizzio fell."

She knelt in angel guiſe each feature mourn'd;
And thrice diſdain the haughty frown renew'd;
And oft toward Gallia's climes her eye ſhe turn'd;
And oft the ſilent tear the ſtone bedew'd.

"Oh! Darnly, how this blood o'erpowers my ſoul;
"Thou couldſt not love me ſure, and treat me ſo:
"Suſpect *me* of a crime! a crime ſo foul?
"Tell to the world thou thought'ſt thy Queen ſo low?

"Too proud to *name* that guilt my heart ne'er knew
"Too feeling, to endure reproach from thee;
"Thou call'd'ſt me faithleſs, and the fawning crew
"Thought murder* nothing to a wretch like me.

"But hadſt thou ſeen them, Darnly, from this breaſt—
"Inhuman! from this breaſt my child they tore—
"How claſp'd his little hands around my waiſt?
"Even thou had'ſt pity'd nor ſuſpected more.

"In wild deſpair I heard his infant cry;
"With frantic voice I call'd; yes, call'd on thee:
"Even abject menials from their miſtreſs fly;
"What earthly friend remain'd to counſel me?

"Forſaken now—where'er I look'd around,
"The ſcornful ſneer ſtill met my downcaſt eye:
"At laſt, the dungeon yawn'd with jaws profound,
"Each creaking hinge exclaim'd—Deſpair, and die.

"Through the drear grate I view'd the vernal bloom,
"In Autumn crown'd, in Wintry blaſts decay.
"I once ſmil'd too, unconſcious of my doom,
"Till burſting tempeſts drove that ſmile away.

"All day I liſten'd to the bleak winds howl;
"With grim delight beheld the blaſted tree;
"At eve I'd hearken to the ſcreaming owl,
"And joyleſs roſe the ſprightly morn to me.

"Had Mary ne'er beheld proud Scotia's throne,
"Nor heaven in gold the ſparkling gem array'd,
"Perhaps the tenant of ſome vale unknown,
"No Darnly there had ſpurn'd—no friend betray'd."

She ſaid, and vaniſh'd in the gloom profound.
In vain my eyes the beauteous form recall,
In vain my ear wou'd catch the melting ſound;
Its laſt, faint echo, whiſper'd o'er the wall.

My freezing veins no ghoſtly terrors chill,
No glaring meteors ſcare the ſlumbering night,
The breeze blew ſweetly o'er the verdant hill,
And ſcattering clouds unvail the baſhful light.

A. R.

A SUMMER WALK.

Written during the Hard Froſt, Jan. 1789.
*Addreſſed to Miſs Sophy***.*

FOR thee, ſweet mover of my theme,
I ſtrike again the golden wire;
Come

* *The aſſaſſination of Darnly, in which ſhe was ſuppoſed to be concerned.*

Come, ſhare with me the bliſsful dream,
And bid all ſorrowing thoughts retire.
Oh! let a while thy tabby race
To rapture and the Muſe give place;
Thy fav'rite charge awhile reſign,
Low at thy feet let Selima recline!
Come, follow me thro' fairy ways,
Where-e'er delighted pleaſure ſtrays.

O'er earth around tho' torpid Winter throw
His robe of dreary ſnow;
Stript of her charms tho' all creation lie,
And one wide waſte repels the wearied eye;
In livelieſt green her woods the Muſe
For thee ſhall clad; ſhall paint with hundred hues
Her vales; ſhall lead thee thro' Elyſian bowers,
By bubbling rills, and ever fragrant flowers.

The birds, now riſen, have wiped their dewy wings,
And every grove with warbling rings;
The minſtrel lark has ſmooth'd his breaſt,
All ruffled on his graſſy neſt,
And, towering up the æthereal clime,
Looks downward from his height ſublime,
While, far below the horizon's bound,
Which limits mortals' ken around,
His eyes the ſun, by us unſeen, ſurvey,
Marching on the eaſtern way.

But ſee his fainter diſk ariſe,
To ſtreak with red the morning ſkies;
Now caſts he back his miſty ſhroud,
And mounts above yon lucid cloud;
Behold how bright his orb appears,
Untarniſh'd with a thouſand years;
No time diminiſhes his glorious flame,
From age to age he travels on the ſame.

Whilſt he thus from his fiery car
Flings his dazzling beams afar,
Sleeps man upon a bed of down?
None but the labourer and the clown,
With thee, lov'd Sophy, and thy Bard repair,
To gaze upon a ſight ſo fair!
How art thou rapt, ſuch ſplendor to behold!
Such pomp of burniſh'd gold!
But haſte away, pure nymph, with me;
The world is up, and "thou haſt much to ſee."

Hark! heard you not the ſounding flail,
Echoing on the diſtant floor?
And ſee the milk-maid at the door,
Returning, now ſets down her pail.
Lo! yonder too's the ſhepherd boy,
With cheeks of roſes, and a heart of joy;
Contented as he walks along,
Hear how he carols out his ſong!
Mark with what pride, what honeſt glee,
He comes to ſet his fleecy priſoners free!
The grateful herds with bleatings own,
That liberty is life alone.
Again enlarg'd, they range the plain,
They feel a bliſs thro' every vein,
From hill to dale exulting run,
Or crop the blade ſtill reeking to the ſun.

Around their dams the younglings pour,
And oft expreſs their milky ſtore;
Then, ſatisfied, they ſeek the glade,
To ſkip and frolic in the ſhade.
Laugh'ſt thou to ſee their harmleſs play,
And aſk'ſt, what 'tis that makes them gay?
Oh, Sophy! 'tis a breaſt with cares
Unvext, unterrified with fears;
'Tis peace, which no fell paſſions mine;
'Tis ſimple innocence, like thine!

But why delay'ſt thou ſtill to leave
This verdant bank? oh, ſay! for whom
Cull you theſe flowers of gorgeous bloom?
For whom that garland weave?
Is it to grace thy flowing locks?
Or wouldſt thou from the numerous flocks
I bring thy favourite lamb, to deck
With faireſt wreath his paſſive neck!
Thy will, ſweet virgin, I deſcry;
I read the queſtion of thine eye;
Yes, I will bear the captive to thy hands,
And thou ſhalt gird him with thy roſeate bands.

And is it thus thou treat'ſt the ſlave
Thy own enchanted poet gave?
Kind maid, who would not wiſh to be
A happy priſoner to thee?
More pleas'd art thou to ſet him free,
And ſend him to his herds again,
Than e'en to bind him with his flowery chain.
Thoſe ſunny ſmiles to me diſcloſe
The ſecret joy thy boſom knows:
Within that breaſt what floods of pleaſure roll,
How pure the tranſport of thy ſoul!
Thy bliſs I ſhare—I feel it dart
A warmer glow thro' all my heart:
But ſeek we now yon river's ſide,
Where ſilvery dace upon the ſurface glide,
Or ſhyer carp, beneath the ſtream
Slow-moving, caſt a golden gleam.

Here, on the margin of this flood,
Where oft in ſummers paſt we've ſtood,
Together let us watch how ſwallows fly,
Now winding thro' the mid-way ſky,
Now ſhooting down with furious ſpeed,
Then ſkimming lightly o'er the mead?
While ever and anon they lave
Their jetty pinions in the cooling wave.

Along the bank as on we wander ſtill,
Is it not ſweet to catch the ſound

Of

Of yonder clacking mill,
Whoſe waters, as the wheel turns round,
In foaming eddies ſteal away,
Sparkling in the edge of day?

But reſt you now thoſe limbs awhile;
Meantime I'll "ſit and ſee thee ſmile,"
Or hear thee ſing ſome lark like ſong,
As blithe as now the days are long;
Not an hopeleſs, love-ſick ditty,
To melt the heart, and move the ſoul to pity:
But ſuch as happy ruſtics ſing,
At eve when, gathering in a ring,
Every ſhepherd's nymph is ſeen,
Dancing on the feſtive green.

Thanks to the maid, who deign'd to treat
Her love with minſtrelſy ſo ſweet!
Now climb we up this mountain's brow,
Thence to ſurvey the lake below
To mark, by how ſmall currents fed,
How wide it throws its ample bed;
To ſee the ſhip, in gallant trim,
Around the floating mirror ſwim;
While martial muſic, following cloſe behind,
Gives health unto the frame, and ſpirit to the mind.

'Twere pleaſant, Sophy, here to ſpend the hour,
Did not bright Phœbus, from his noon-day ſeat
Shedding on all oppreſſive heat,
Urge us to find ſome cooling bower.
Deſcend we down this ſhaggy ſide,
To where yon ſtreams the grove divide;
There will we liſten to the fall
Of diſtant waters pouring o'er the ſteep,
Lulling the lubber hind to ſleep,
Forgetful of his call.

Sometimes we'll ſtand and laugh, to ſee
The ſquirrel peck upon the topmoſt tree,
Then take thro' air his venturous way,
To light upon a ſingle ſpray;
Thence ſpring again, with nimble bound,
To friſk, and run along the ground.

Theſe poplars and theſe elms beneat
How freſh the zephyrs breathe?
Now aſk that ſhepherdeſs to lend her hook,
To cut thee creſſes from the weedy brook:
Meanwhile I'll grave this poliſh'd bark—
This tree, if no rude hand efface the mark,
Thy name, ſweet maid, to after-times ſhall bear,
The loveliest maid that ever wander'd here.

But, Sophy, think how far from home,
Led on by many a charm, we roam!
Thrice have we meaſur'd out the mile,
Thro' ſcenes which well our footſteps might beguile;
And plain I ſee, with thee, my fair,
Exhauſted Nature needs repair.
Lo on the ſummit of thoſe riſing lands,
Half hid with thorns, a cottage ſtands:
Thither we'll go; the maſter's mind,
To hoſpitable deeds inclin'd,
Shall bid him ſpread for thee his choiceſt ſtore;
Could Pomp or proud Pre-eminence do more!

Dearer to us than dainties rare,
Is the ploughman's humbleſt fare,
When proffer'd with ſo large a will,
Which no munificence could fill

Homeward, with ſtrength and vigour new,
With me thy courſe now ſatisfied purſue;
And own, tho' ſnows deform this iſle,
Yet ſtill for thee may Summer ſmile:
When froſts the rapid floods controul,
Their waves arreſting as they go;
For thee ſhall Fancy's current flow:
Fierce Winter's ſurly blaſt can never chill the ſoul!

P. H.

Extract from Peter Pindar's *late Publication, intitled,* "*Sir* Joſeph Banks "*and the* Emperor *of* Morocco. *A Tale.*"

ON a Butterfly Hunt, the hero of the piece ſtarts the *Emperor of Morocco;* and the purſuit is thus deſcribed:

'LIGHTLY, with winnowing wing amid the land,
His Mooriſh majeſty in circles flew!
With ſturdy ſtriding legs and out-ſtretch'd hand,
The virtuoſo did his prey purſue.

He ſtrikes, he miſſes, ſtrikes again--he grins,
And ſees in thought the monarch fix'd with pins;
Sees him on paper giving up the ghoſt,
Nail'd like a hawk or martyr to a poſt.

Oft fell Sir Joſeph on the ſlippery plain,
Like *patriot* Eden—fell to riſe again;
The Emp'ror, ſmiling, ſported on before:
Like Phœbus courſing Daphne was the chace,
But not ſo was the meaning of the race,
Sir Joſeph ran to kill, not kiſs the Moor.

To hold him pris'ner in a glaſs for ſhew,
Like Tamerlane (redoubtable his rage)
Who kept poor Bajazet, his vanquiſh'd foe;
Juſt like an owl or magpie in a cage.

. . . .

A countryman, who, from a lane,
Had mark'd Sir Joſeph, running, tumbling, ſweating,

Stretching

Stretching his hands and arms, like one infane,
And with thofe arms the air around him beating,
To no particular opinion leaning.
Of fuch manœuv'ring could not guefs the meaning.

At length the Prefident, all foam and muck,
Quite out of breath, and out of luck,
Purfued the flying monarch to the place,
Where ftood this countryman, with marv'ling face.

Now through the hedge exactly like a horfe,
Wild plunged the Prefident, with all his force,
His brow in fweat, his foul in perturbation;
Mindlefs of trees, and bufhes, and the brambles,
Head over heels into the lane he fcrambles,
Where Hob ftood loft in wide-mouth'd fpeculation!

" Speak," roar'd the Prefident, " this inftant—fay
" Haft feen,—haft feen, my lad, this way,
" The Emperor of Morocco pafs?"
Hob to the infect-hunter nought replied,
But fhook his head, and fympathifing figh'd
" Alas!
" Poor Gentleman, I am forry for ye;
" And pity much your *upper ftory!*"

Lo! down the lane alert the emp'ror flew,
And ftruck once more Sir Jofeph's hawk-like view;
And now he mounted o'er a garden wall!
In rufhed Sir Jofeph at the garden door,
Knock'd down the gard'ner—what could man do more,
And left him as he chofe to rife or fprawl.

O'er peerlefs hyacinths our hero rufh'd;
Through tulips and anemonies he pufh'd,
Breaking a hundred necks at ev'ry fpring:
On bright carnations blufhing on their banks
With defp'rate hoof he trod, and mow'd down ranks,
Such vaft ambition urg'd to feize the king!

Bell-glaffes, all fo thick, were tumbled o'er,
And lo! the cries fo fhrill of many a fcore,
A fad and fatal ftroke proclaim'd;
The fcarecrow all fo red, was overturn'd;
His vanifh'd hat and wig, and head, he mourn'd,
And much indeed, the man of ftraw was maim'd!

. . . .

The gard'ner now for juft revenge up fprung,
O'erwhelm'd with wonderment and dung,
And fiercely in his turn purfued the knight!
From bed to bed, full tilt the champions rac'd,
This chac'd the knight, the knight the emp'ror chac'd,
Who fcal'd the walls, alas! and vanifh'd out of fight;
To find the emprefs, p'rhaps, and tell her *Grace*
The merry hiftory of the chace.

At length the gard'ner, fwell'd with rage and dolor,
O'ertaking, grafps Sir Jofeph by the collar,
And blefs'd with fav'rite oaths, abundance fhow'rs;—
" Villain," he cried, " beyond example!
" Juft like a cart-horfe on my beds to trample,
" More than your foul is worth, to kill my flow'rs!
See how your two vile hoofs have made a wreck—
" Look, rafcal, at each beauty's broken neck!"

Mindlefs of humbled flowers, fo freely kill'd,
Although fuperior to his foul declar'd,
And vegetable blood profufely fpill'd,
Superior, too, to all reward;
Mindlefs of all the gard'ner's plaintive ftrains,
The emp'ror's form monopliz'd his brains.

At length he fpoke, in fad defpairing tones,---

. . . .

" Gone is my foul's defire, for ever gone!"--
" Who's gone?" the gard'ner ftrait replied--
" The Emp'ror, Sir," with tears Sir Jofeph cried—
" The Emp'ror of Morocco—thought my own!
" To unknown fields behold the monarch fly!—
" Zounds! not to catch him, what an afs was I!"

His eyes the gard'ner, full of horror ftretch'd,
And then a groan, a monftrous groan he fetch'd,
Contemplating around his ruin'd wares;
And now he let Sir Jofeph's collar go;
And now he bray'd aloud with bittereft woe,
" Mad, madder than the maddeft of March hares!

" A p--x confound the fellow's Bedlam rigs
" Oh! he hath done the work of fifty pigs!
" The devil take his Keeper, a damn'd goofe,
" For letting his wild beaft get loofe."
But now the gard'ner, terrified began
To think himfelf too near a man
In fo Peg-Nicholfon a fituation;

And happy from a madman to escape,
He left him without bow, or nod, or scrape,
Like *Jeremiah*, midst his Lamentation.'

The LAMENTATIONS *of* PETER PINDAR.

'OH what a silly fool was I,
To make my bed at such a rate!"
Thus wail'd a Maid that Virtue should escape her:
And so alas! doth *hapless* Peter cry,
Once the proud Ape of Pindar's lofty state,
Now the dull *deer* of a *Morning Paper*.

That each man hath his price, Old Walpole knew:
The P——e and Joseph Surface know it too;
And well enough they knew my Lyric Powers,
And judg'd, full well, that Satire's sting
Could wound a Regent—as a King,
And wisely said—" *This fellow must be ours.*"

And here I am, egad, in a strait vest,
So tongue-tied too, that e'en our *Devils flout me*;
Weltjie my Keeper, holds me in arrest,
And this, with all my faculties about me.

Curse on all Bribery, sometimes I cry!
Oh! had my Virtue never given way,
Nor I this *curs'd coercion* undergone:
I would have giv'n my Satire its full swing—
And as I dare not now abuse the King,
Have vented all my spleen upon his Son.

Instead of this—whole hours I daily dose,
On opiate stuff, by dull ——n sent;
Or meditate on T——'s cold-drawn prose,
To Brother Dick—a fraudful compliment.

Sometimes on Paragraphs my hand I try,
But still on Poetry my head is running;
'Gainst Pitt I strive to forge the daily lie,
But my right hand, alas! forgets its cunning.

On Royal Scandal I can better thrive,
Pindarum quisquis studet emulari,
His lofty flight should never vary,
Nor into Newspaper discussion dive.

Give me a theme that suits my noble daring,
And I can set the World a-staring!
At level, point-blank shots, my Satire winces;

If I must wound a reputation,
Place it with highest point of elevation,
And down it goes whether a King's or Prince's.

Oft as I pass by Carlet·n's stately pile,
And view the suite that on the P——e attends,
Men who like me, did Majesty revile,
Now made his R—— H——'s bosom friends:

I view the fabric with sarcastic grin,
And cry—" *how fair* without! *how foul* within!"
And then I shake my head, and say, Oh Peter!
Here *were indeed a subject for thy metre*;
Curse on the Friend who turn'd thee from thy road,
And robb'd the world, and thee, of many a Royal Ode.

Sometimes I seek the Commons or the Lords,
And hear them talk of Princely *Rights* and Claims;
And then again I see them *eat their words*,
And then I hear them rave, and call *hard Names*:
And then I see the Royal Peers arise,
Bearing the semblance of *important thought*;
But mem'ry *oft to these her aid denies*,
They *can't* Repeat *the task that* Brinsley *taught*.

And then I shake my head and say, *Oh Peter!*
Here were a noble object for thy Metre,
Curse on the Fiend that turn'd thee from thy road,
And robb'd the World and thee, of many a Royal Ode.

To's R—— H—— then again I turn,
And feel my loyal indignation rise,
To see those men his Father held in scorn,
Men hated by the good and wise,
Play in his Royal Name,
A desp'rate Game;
And for their own base ends his int'rest sacrifice.
At this I can't refrain my hearty curse,
And say, not Rehoboam's *Counsellors*, counsell'd worse.

And then I shake my head, and cry, Oh Peter!
Here were a proper subject for thy metre,
Curse on the Fiend that turn'd thee from thy road,
And robb'd the World and thee, of many a Royal Ode.

THE Monthly Register For FEBRUARY 1789.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

Extract of a letter from M. Sterzinger, Secretary to his Excellency Prince Caraminico, Vice-Roy of Sicily, to R. F. Piozzi, Royal Professor of Astronomy to the University of Palermo, at present in London.

Palermo 1788.

"WITH regard to the MS. of Titus Livius, that which is certain is this, that there is a person who possesses a MS. written in the Moorish western language, and which contains 17 books of Titus Livius not yet published, which run from the 60th to the 77th, but which is not complete. M. l'Abbe Vella intends soon to set about translating this MS."

Venice, Jan. 3. From Malghera, that is to say, for about the space of five miles, and especially on the marshes, all the canal is so frozen, that people may pass over it without danger. All sorts of provisions are brought this way, and for the greater advantage of the inhabitants they pay no duty.

The canals of Burano, in the Islands, and in the neighbouring Continent, are almost entirely covered with ice, and those of Burano at Venice are quite so; but there is not so much ice on the sea side, so that the ports are quite free.

The Doge of Venice died on the 8th of January. He was elected January 14, 1779, and born in November 1710.

Avignon, Jan. 6. The cold here is very severe; it has froze ever since the 17th of November. The thermometer, till the 19th of December, remained at three degrees below the freezing point, since which it increased progressively till the 31st, when it got to 12 degrees. Since that it has been constantly at five or eight degrees. The Rhine has been frozen over for these 12 days, and in some places may be walked across without danger. The Durance has been in the same state.

Madrid, Dec. 20. The king of Spain was proclaimed in this capital on Saturday 17th instant, with all customary ceremonies. The acclamations of the people were great, and expressive of much loyalty and affection to their Sovereigns. The public mourning was suspended during three days, a very large list of promotions was published, various entertainments and balls were given, and there was a general illumination on each of the three evenings.

Dec. 30. The late King, before his death, recommended the welfare of the people to our Sovereign in the most affecting terms, together with the culture of religion, the education of the Infant, and tenderness due to the Infantas, and the Infant Don Pedro; and finally, the concord and union which ought to reign both amongst the branches of the august Family and the Sovereign and his people. His Majesty conversed for half an hour with Count d'Aranda before he expired.

H. of Com. Jan. 27. *Mr Grey* having charged *Mr Pitt* with having conducted himself disrespectfully towards the Prince of Wales, Mr Pitt called upon Mr Grey to specify the particulars of a charge of so very serious a nature. He might possibly have offended against *etiquette*, for he professed that he was not very well acquainted with it; but it was impossible that he could be intentionally wanting in respect to his Royal Highness. To respect and revere his Royal Highness was part of his duty to his Sovereign: for he could not discharge his duty to him, if he treated his son with disrespect, any more than he could be said to be a dutiful subject, if he sacrificed what he owed to his Sovereign, through a blind and disloyal attachment to the Prince. He owed respect to every branch of the Royal family; but his duty to the country and to the constitution was paramount to it; and he thought the way he could best shew his respect for the King, would be to render the constitution and prosperity of the country secure: and the way in which he could best shew his respect to the Prince was, by consulting the happiness of the people over whom he was one day to rule.

Mr Grey said, that called upon as he had been by the Right Hon. gentleman to

to specify the charge of disrespect which he had brought against him, he should endeavour to state the instances of disrespect which, he conceived, had appeared in the conduct of the Right Hon. gentleman towards his Royal Highness.

1st, Then, he thought that it was a marked disrespect to the Prince, that when it was in agitation to call a meeting of the Privy Council for the purpose of examining the King's physicians, the Right Hon. gentleman had not previously consulted the Prince on a business which so very nearly interested his Royal Highness.

2dly, That when notice was sent to the Prince of the intended meeting of the Council, it was only by an ordinary summons, such as was sent to every other member of the Council.

3dly, That the Right Hon. gentleman had not submitted to his Royal Highness the plan for the settlement of the government, until it had been first opened in Parliament.

4thly, and lastly, That when he did think proper to submit his plan to the Prince, he sent it by an ordinary conveyance, instead of delivering it himself, or transmitting it through some respectable channel.

Mr Pitt replied, he was extremely glad that he was now in possession of the whole charge, and that he had so fair an opportunity of meeting it. He professed his obligations to the Hon. gentleman for his precise statement of the facts then urged against him.

To the *first* part of it he would say, that when it was in agitation to call a meeting of the Privy Council for the purpose already stated, his Majesty's ministers did not know of any situation in which his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales could give them any orders, or in which they could receive his commands: it was therefore only as a Privy Counsellor that his R. H. could be consulted on the occasion, and that his R. H. had received the same intimations which had been given the rest of the Princes of the Blood.

In answer to the *second* charge he could say, that the proposed meeting of the Council was not notified to his Royal Highness by an ordinary summons, such as was sent to the other members, but by a letter written by the Lord President of his Majesty's Council.

With respect to the communication of his plan to his Royal Highness, *after* and not *before*, he had submitted it to Parliament, he had this to say, that it was most certainly his intention to have sent it to the Prince before he had mentioned it to the House, but having been pressed very much by a Right Hon. gentleman (Mr Fox) whom he had the misfortune not to see then in his place; he had, contrary to his former intention, given way to the Right Hon. gentleman, who so warmly pressed him for information.

The next day after he had explained himself in Parliament, he received the commands of his Royal Highness to send him the plan in writing. He accordingly sent it, in a way, which it seemed was thought disrespectful, as it was made the ground of the 4th charge. It had been said, in anonymous libels, that the plan had been sent by a livery servant; but it was a gross falsehood: it was sent by a messenger. If that was a disrespectful channel of conveyance, it was more than he knew; if he had thought it was, he certainly would not have used it: but this much he knew, that he had often made communications to his Majesty through the medium of a messenger.

After this explanation of his conduct, he said, he hoped he should stand acquitted in the judgment of the House, of any disrespect to his Royal Highness, whom it was so much his inclination, as well as his duty, to treat with every possible mark of respect.

H. of Commons, Jan. 29. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Lord Frederick Campbell, the Master of the Rolls, and the Secretary at War, were appointed to wait upon the Prince.—And Lord Courtoun, the Comptroller of the Household, Hon. Richard Howard, and Lieut. Col. Manners, to wait upon the Queen with their addresses.

H. of Lords, Jan. 31. The House was unusually full.—All the great leaders of both parties being present, except the Lord Chancellor and Lord Loughborough, who were indisposed.

Earl Cambden reported from the committee appointed to wait upon the Prince of Wales with the address of the Lords and Commons, that the committee had waited upon his Royal Highness, who received them with the greatest cordiality and politeness; and, upon the address being presented to him, the Prince made the following most gracious answer:

My Lords and Gentlemen,

"I thank you for communicating to me the resolutions agreed to by the two Houses, and I request you to assure them,

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in my name, that my duty to the King my father, and my anxious concern for the ſafety and intereſt of the people, which muſt be endangered by a longer ſuſpenſion of the Royal authority; together with my reſpect for the united deſires of the two Houſes, outweigh in my mind every other conſideration, and will determine me to undertake the weighty and important truſt propoſed to me, in conformity to the reſolutions now communicated to me.

"I am ſenſible of the difficulties that muſt attend the execution of this truſt, in the peculiar circumſtances in which it is committed to my charge; of which, as I am acquainted with no former example, my hopes of a ſucceſsful adminiſtration cannot be founded on any paſt experience. But confiding that the limitations on the exerciſe of the Royal authority, deemed neceſſary for the preſent, have been approved by the two Houſes, only as a temporary meaſure, founded on the loyal hope, in which I ardently participate, that his Majeſty's diſorder may not be of long duration; and truſting, in the mean while, that I ſhall receive a zealous and united ſupport in the two Houſes, and in the nation, proportioned to the difficulty attending the diſcharge of my truſt in this interval, I will entertain the pleaſing hope, that my faithful endeavours to preſerve the intereſts of the King, his Crown, and people, may be ſucceſsful."

Earl Waldgrave then reported, that the committee appointed by the two Houſes had waited upon her Majeſty with the addreſs, and that her Majeſty had returned the following moſt gracious anſwer:

"*My Lords and Gentlemen,*

"My duty and gratitude to the King, and the ſenſe I muſt ever entertain, of my great obligations to this country, will certainly engage my moſt earneſt attention to the anxious and momentuous truſt intended to be repoſed in me by Parliament. It will be a great conſolation to me to receive the aid of a council, of which I ſhall ſtand ſo much in need, in the diſcharge of a duty, wherein the happineſs of my future life is indeed deeply intereſted, but which a higher object, the happineſs of a great, loyal, and affectionate people, renders ſtill more important!"

Earl Cambden took notice of the infinite pleaſure which he, in common with every other noble member of that Houſe, enjoyed, at the gracious and explicit anſwer which has been received from his Royal Highneſs and the Queen. After having felicitated the Houſe upon this happy event, which ſhed very ſtrong rays of comfort to the Houſes, and to the nation at large, he ſaid, that having proceeded thus far, it was their duty to compleat the buſineſs, and reſtore the government of the country to its wonted energy and effect, as ſpeedily as poſſible. The next ſtep which appeared to him to be neceſſary, was by a formal reſolution to impart a regularity to their own proceedings. They were at preſent merely a convention, being incompiete and imperfect, without the aſſiſtance of the Third Eſtate. There was but one organ by which this aſſiſtance could be derived, or by which they could be reſtored to their natural functions, and this organ was the Great Seal! This was in fact the mouth of the King; it was the inſtrument by which he declared his will, and was therefore the only one by which the Courts below could be brought to recognize their proceedings formally and legally as an act of Parliament! He next ſtated the plan, which under the preſent circumſtances he meant to propoſe to the committee to cure the defect in the legiſlature, previous to his Royal Highneſs being inveſted by law with the executive part of the ſovereign authority. The *firſt* meaſure was to eſtabliſh a commiſſion under the Great Seal by authority of the two Houſes of Parliament, to open the ſeſſion of Parliament in due form. This was to be followed up by a *ſecond*, to give the Royal aſſent in his Majeſty's name, to the neceſſary bills for ſettling the government. The bill for ſettling the regency in the perſon of the Prince was conſequently the firſt object, and veſting the care of the King's perſon and houſehold in her Majeſty—and then his idea was, that the commiſſion would of courſe ceaſe. His Lordſhip concluded with moving the Chairman, "That in the preſent exigency of public affairs, it is expedient that letters patent be iſſued under the Great Seal, by order of the two Houſes of Parliament, empowering certain commiſſioners therein named, to open the King's Parliament at Weſtminſter." Mr Arnaud, the clerk at the table, then read the Commiſſion:—

"George the Third, &c. To our truſty and well beloved George Auguſtus Prince of Wales, Frederick Duke of York, William Henry Duke of Glouceſter, Henry Frederick Duke of Cumberland, John Archbiſhop of Canterbury, Edward Lord Thurlow Lord High Chancellor,

Chancellor, Charles Earl Camden our President of the Council, Grenville Marquis of Stafford keeper of our Privy Seal, John Earl of Chatham, Thomas Viscount Weymouth, Francis Lord Osborne one of our Secretaries of State, Tho. Ld. Sydney one other of our Secretaries of State, Lloyd Lord Kenyon our Chief Justice of our Bench, or any *three* of them—Whereas for divers reasons *us thereunto moving*, &c. &c. &c." The commission concluded "by his Majesty's command,"—and instead of the signature, is inserted—"*By the* authority of the two Houses of Parliament."—The Commission being read,

His Royal Highness the DUKE of YORK rose, and expressed his surprise that his name should be inserted in a commission without his previous knowledge. He was convinced the whole proceedings were unconstitutional from the first commencement: and therefore he could not consistent with his honour, accept of a trust which he believed to be injurious to the constitution, and utterly inconsistent with the true interest of the people. His opinion was already well known; it was upon the records of the House; no consideration therefore should induce him to suffer his name to be handed down to posterity, as giving a sanction to measures, which, upon the most mature deliberation, he was convinced were derogatory to the honour of the Crown, eventually tending to destroy the balance of the constitution, and consequently the dearest interest and liberty of the people; his noble relation (the Duke of Cumberland) who was present, had communicated the same sentiment; and he had every reason to believe, though he was not authorised to declare, that the Prince of Wales and the Duke of Gloucester entertained the same opinion. He had no doubt but that the feelings of his noble relations upon the subject were in exact conformity with his own. For these reasons he must insist that his name might not appear in the commission.

[The Duke was heard with the most profound attention, and he delivered himself in a style that was dignified, clear, and unembarrassed.]

Earl Camden was called upon from the Chairman, when he observed that he felt a deep regret at the objections that had fallen from his Royal Highness; however, if he persisted, there could be no other alteration than withdrawing the name of the Royal Duke from the commission.

The Duke of York again rose and persisted in having his name left out. He would venture to answer for his Royal brother the Prince of Wales, and therefore he desired that his name might be withdrawn; and likewise his Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester.

The Duke of Cumberland rose, and briefly said, that he could not, on any consideration, consent that his name should appear in the commission.

Lord Radnor moved, that it might be inserted in the journals, that the omission of the names of the four princes of the blood, from the commission, was by their own express request and desire, that it might appear to posterity that no insult had been offered them.

The question was carried *nem. con.* The commission was then read over, and passed the committee.

The commission for *opening* the Parliament was then fixed for Tuesday.

H. of Com. Feb. 2. *Mr Pitt* rose and opened the business of the commissions The Great Seal, he said, was such a proof of the Royal will and pleasure, that no averment could be made against it in any court of law. Nay, so strong was this principle, that if the keeper of the Great Seal should, in violation of his duty, put the Great Seal to any instrument, without having in point of fact had any authority whatever for so doing, no courts of law would suffer any person to plead against such instrument, that the Great Seal had been put to it without the will or knowledge of the King: for the Seal was of itself considered in law, as clear and indisputable evidence of the King's will: and therefore, when the two Houses should have cloathed their act with this necessary form, they would give to it the same validity in point of law that it could possibly derive from the King himself. Having nearly trod in Lord Camden's steps on this subject, he moved, "That it was expedient and necessary that a commission for opening the Parliament be issued under the Great Seal."

After some debate, the question being called for, it was put, and carried without a division.

H. of Lords, Feb. 3. The Chancellor still continuing indisposed, Earl Bathurst, who sat as speaker, opened the business. He said his Majesty having issued a commission, and appointed commissioners to open the Parliament, agreeable to the resolutions of the two Houses, the clerk will proceed to read the commission. Mr Arnaud

Arnaud accordingly read the commission, in which the names of the *four Princes of the Blood were omitted*.---The commission concludes, "*By his Majesty's command—By advice of the two Houses of Parliament.*"

The Black Rod was directed to desire the Commons to attend the House of Lords.

The Speaker, attended by upwards of fifty members, came to the bar, when Earl Bathurst addressed the two Houses. "My Lords and Gentlemen,—His Majesty's commission having been issued under the Great Seal, authorising certain commissioners, therein named, to open the present Parliament, according to the last prorogation, and to proceed to business, you will now hear the commission read." The commission was again read.

Earl Bathurst then addressed the two Houses in the following manner:

"My Lords and Gentlemen,

"In pursuance of the authority given us by his Majesty's commission under the Great Seal, which has now been read, amongst other things, to declare the causes of your present meeting, we have only to call your attention to the melancholy circumstance of his Majesty's illness; in consequence of which it becomes necessary to provide for the care of his Majesty's Royal person, and for the administration of the Royal authority, during the continuance of this calamity, in such manner as the exigency of the case appears to require."

The Speaker of the Commons retired, *without speaking a word.*

The House was then resumed, and a bill as usual was read *pro forma.*

H. of Commons Feb. 3. The Speaker with the members, having returned from the House of Lords, Mr Pitt said, he believed it would be unnecessary to say, that the regency bill had the first claim to the attention of the House. As the resolutions on which the bill was to be founded had been so often debated, he thought it unnecessary to say a word on the subject. He therefore moved for leave to bring in a bill, &c. upon which it was ordered—"That leave be given to bring in a bill to settle and appoint a regency during the continuance of the present unhappy calamity."

Adjourned.

H. of Commons, Feb. 5. *Mr Pitt* brought in the Regency Bill, which he moved to be read a first time.

The bill commences with stating his Majesty's incapability of executing the powers of government, arising from the malady with which he is at present afflicted, and declares the necessity of supplying the executive branch of government, in the continuance of his Majesty's illness, in such a manner as the exigency of the case seems to require. For that purpose it enacts, That his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, shall be appointed sole Regent, under the stile and title of Regent of the Kingdom, with all the rights, powers, privileges, and prerogatives belonging or appertaining to the Crown of Great Britain, subject to certain restrictions and limitations contained in the said bill.

His Royal Highness shall, previous to his assuming the power of a Regent, take an oath, which is inserted in the act. He shall likewise take and subscribe the usual oaths of allegiance, abjuration, &c. &c.

The Regent shall not confer the honour of Peerage, except upon any branch of the Royal family, of the full age of twenty-one years.

He shall not bestow any place or pension for a longer time than during his Majesty's pleasure, except such patent places as are by law required to be disposed of for life.

He is restricted from granting leases of any Crown lands.

He shall not give his assent to any bills, for alterations of the national Church and religion, as established by the 17th of Charles II. nor give his assent to any bill for any alterations in the established Church or Presbytery of Scotland, under the act of settlement of Queen Anne.

He is restrained from granting away any of the ancient rights of the Crown, such as fines, forfeitures, escheats, droits of Admiralty, &c. &c.

He is not to interfere in the care of his majesty's person, nor in the management of his household.

If he departs the kingdom, his powers of regency will cease.

In like manner if he marries a Roman Catholic.

His powers of government are to cease and determine whenever his Majesty shall be determined by his Council to be sufficiently recovered to resume the government of the kingdom.

The bill further provides for the safety of the King's person, and the care of his household, by investing her Majesty with a power, together with a certain

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number of commiſſioners, therein to be named, to take the care and management of the King's houſehold.

That her Majeſty and the Council ſhall have the ſole power and authority of controuling the Houſehold, appointing officers, and removing them at pleaſure.

That the care of the King's eſtates &c. &c. ſhall be veſted in the ſame commiſſion.

That all the vacancies in the houſehold ſhall be filled up by her Majeſty, with conſent of her Council.

In caſe of her Majeſty's death, Parliament ſhall be immediately aſſembled to fill up the vacancy, in the care of his Majeſty's perſon and houſehold.

The bill further enacts, that whenever it ſhall pleaſe Almighty God to relieve his Majeſty from his preſent malady, and it ſhall be the opinion of the Queen and her Council, that the King is capable of reſuming the reins of government; in that caſe, whenever his Majeſty ſhall iſſue a proclamation, ſignifying his Royal intentions to reſume the powers of government, the Parliament ſhall be forthwith aſſembled, and his Majeſty ſhall be immediately reinſtated in all his rights, prerogatives, &c.

There are ſeveral other clauſes of leſs import.

The heads of the bill were then read a ſecond time, after which the bill was ordered to be read a ſecond time to-morrow.

H. of Commons, Feb. 6. The queſtion for the ſecond reading of the Regency Bill was put and carried without a diviſion.

Mr Pitt then moved, that the bill be committed to a committee of the whole Houſe, and that the Houſe ſhould to-morrow reſolve itſelf into a committee thereon, which motions were agreed to *nem. con.*

H. of Commons, Feb. 7. The Houſe reſolved itſelf into a committee, Alderman Watſon in the chair; and proceeded to read the regency bill clauſe by clauſe.

Sir Charles Gould moved, that the clauſe containing the Prince's oath ſhould be poſtponed, until they had previouſly conſidered what were the preciſe reſtrictions to be propoſed.

The motion was put, and negatived without a diviſion.

Mr Sherridan moved, to omit the words "according to the power veſted in the regent by the preſent act"—for the purpoſe of inſerting the cuſtomary words inſerted in former acts of regency—"according to the laws now exiſting." Negatived.

A clauſe was afterwards read, by which the regent is thereby reſtricted from altering the act of uniformity of the 12th of William the Third; the 13th of Charles the Second, or the 5th Queen Anne, for ſecuring the continuance of the Proteſtant religion in England and Scotland.—The clauſe paſſed.

Mr Rolle, after declaring the purity of his intentions, and denying all communication with the miniſter on the ſubject, ſaid, that he now roſe to propoſe an addition to the preſent clauſe. His wiſhes for the ſecurity of the Proteſtant ſucceſſion led him to guard againſt any caſe that might poſſibly ariſe. He would not intimate that any ſuch caſe exiſted; much leſs did he mean to inſinuate any thing diſreſpectful to the Prince of Wales. He, on the contrary, reſpected a character which was above praiſe, as it was beyond ſuſpicion. But if a poſſible caſe could even be ſuppoſed, where the Proteſtant ſucceſſion might be endangered, then every friend to the Revolution, and every friend to the Houſe of Brunſwick, muſt join in his preſent motion! The amendment propoſed by Mr Rolle was, to exclude from the Regency "any perſon proved to be married, either in law or in fact, to a papiſt, or one of the Roman Catholic perſuaſion."

Lord Belgrave oppoſed the motion; he admitted a purity of intention in the mover. He, for his part, felt convinced, however, by the declaration made by very high authority, (Mr Fox) that no indiſſoluble tie had ever taken place between his Royal Highneſs and the amiable and reſpectable female who had been alluded to.

Mr Pitt obſerved, that though he had inſerted in the bill a clauſe for the ſecurity of the Proteſtant eſtabliſhment, he muſt oppoſe the amendment. He had inſerted this clauſe, becauſe it would have appeared remarkable, if the preſent generation had been leſs anxious than the laſt, for the preſervation of the Proteſtant religion; but as he only wiſhed to imitate, ſo it would be no leſs remarkable if he were to go beyond the example, and to introduce any guard which had not appeared neceſſary to our anceſtors, and

and which was not called for by any thing in the present circumstances of affairs. To introduce a new guard now, would give the world grounds for thinking, that there existed a necessity for it at this moment which had not existed before; and as the necessity could, at best, be collected from vague rumours, unsupported by any evidence, and contradicted from high authority, he did not conceive that there were any grounds that would warrant the committee in admitting the proposed amendment; for he would not admit that vague rumours were a sufficient ground for Parliament to proceed to make an *act*: and therefore, all circumstances considered, he was of opinion, that the committee could not be justified in admitting the amendment of his Honourable friend.

Mr Welbore Ellis said, that the existing law was a sufficient answer to those rumours. He ordered the act of the 1st of Geo. III. cap. 2. to be read, by which it is enacted, that the marriage of any of the descendants of Geo. II. shall not be valid without the Royal assent. This, he observed, was a full answer to all those rumours, as that could not be true in fact, which was not good in law!

Mr Sheridan said, that the bill then in their hands was a proof that the minister had not been deficient in his apprehensions and jealousies of the Prince's government. He had dealt pretty liberally in limitations, checks and guards. With this disposition, when not one word had fallen from him, nor one provision had been made on the idea now brought forward, he must conclude, as the nation must also, that the minds of his Majesty's present ministers, who had the best means of information, were fully, completely, and finally satisfied on this subject.

Mr Courteney remarked, that it was singularly curious, those who wished to support the amendment, acknowledged they had no grounds for it, and applied to the other side of the House to learn if there were any. The safety of religion was a fine *stalking horse*, and best calculated to disturb the public; he remembered to have read, that all London had once [been] thrown into the utmost confusion and trepidation for the security of the Protestant religion, by a rumour, that the *Pope had been seen in a gin shop at Wapping.*

Mr Dundas said he was as ready to oppose the amendment as any man, tho' perhaps on different grounds. The Royal marriage act was certainly a security to the nation; but not such a one as ought to make the House shut its ears to reports of marriages in violation of it. It was certain that no marriage against the letter and spirit of that act could be a marriage in *law*; but should it appear that a King or heir to the Crown had been publicly and avowedly married to a Papist according to the rites of any church, but without the consent of the King, which was made necessary by that act, he would not think the Royal marriage act a security for the religion and constitution of the country; but would call for a Parliamentary inquiry into it. With respect to the rumour to which Gentlemen had alluded, it ought not to be made a ground for a serious debate; it was too light a subject, and ought only to excite mirth and good humour. He did not say all that he might wish to say on the occasion, because a *lady* was concerned; and he had always so much respect for the fair sex, that he would not willingly make one of that sex a subject for public discussion.

The question was then put on Mr Rolle's motion, and negatived *une voce*.

The clause was then read, restricting the Prince Regent from granting peerages to any, except those of the Royal Family of full age.

Mr Joliffe moved a clause for limiting the duration of this restriction to the first day of February 1790.

The question on Mr Joliffe's motion was put, and negatived without a division.

Lord North said he could not hope for success, after the fate which a former amendment had met with; he would, however, move an amendment, that after the words in the next clause, "any employment whatever," should be added —"which on the 1st of November last were held during his Majesty's pleasure."

This amendment was negatived.

Lord North then said, that he thought the Prince in the capacity of Regent, should have a power of granting out of the civil list a floating pension at least of 2700 l. per annum, in case of a Lord High Chancellor's resignation or dismissal, until any place granted in reversion should become vacant and ready for his acceptance; for this purpose he would move another amendment, that after the words at the end of the clause, the following should be inserted—"and that it shall be lawful at any time deemed necessary by the Prince Regent, to grant any pension or reversion of place, to the Lord Chancellor

lor or Keeper of the Great Seal, or to grant the reverfion of any place, to any perfon he may think proper to hold the fame in truft for him."

Mr Pitt faw no reafon why the objection fhould be ftarted to that part of the claufe which had given offence to the noble Lord and his friends—he hoped the country would long enjoy the abilities and integrity of the prefent Lord Chancellor: he thought, therefore, the agitation of that bufinefs was rather premature.—

Mr Sheridan ridiculed the pathetic manner in which the Right Hon. gentleman anticipated the alarming confequences that muft enfue from the political refignation of the Chancellor. The Hon. gentleman feemed to hope that his Lordfhip may fhut the door on him to keep *hi*[illegible]

Mr Pitt faid, he had never either mentioned to the Houfe, the probability of his own departure, or of a noble and learned Lord's continuance in office. He could not conceive it his duty to announce to the Houfe a circumftance of which he was unacquainted. He never had announced his own departure. It was true that it had been announced to him, but by perfons who had no authority to do fo, or could caufe him to depart. Whenever that time fhould come, whenever he fhould have to take leave of the Houfe, he fhould have much more to fay to them than he had yet faid, for their honourable and independent fupport of him during his adminiftration. He felt the high honour and gratification of fuch fupport, and hoped that whenever he fhould leave his fituation, that he fhould leave it under no unfavourable fentiments of his good intentions for the interefts of the country, for the fafety and dignity of his Monarch, and for the prefervation of the rights of the people and the conftitution. [The Right Hon. gentleman fat down amidft the echoed and re-echoed plaudits of the Houfe.]

Mr Sheridan ridiculed the Right Hon. gentleman for lamenting his departure from office. To ufe a vulgar expreffion, he did not doubt that when he was *turned off* he would make an exceeding good *laft fpeech*, to which he (Mr Sheridan) would give proper notice. In the mean time, he would leave him to his feelings.

The queftion was put, and the amendment negatived.

The committee, after having gone through nine claufes, and reported progrefs, adjourned to Monday.

H. of Lords, Feb. 9. Their Lordfhip difpatched two Mafters in Chancery with a meffage to the Commons, intimating that they would recommence the trial of Warren Haftings, Efq; on Monday next.

Lord Dover prefented a petition from Mr Haftings, ftating the peculiar fituation in which he ftood: that feveral perfons who were to have been called in his defence had been obliged to return to India, and the petitioner would confequently be deprived of their teftimony: That other gentlemen were now delayed at a confiderable expence, from going out to India, in order to give their teftimony; but the petitioner could not reafonably expect that they would much longer delay their departure, as it was too much to expect, that during the moft valuable part of their life thofe witneffes fhould remain inactive, for the fole purpofe only of fupporting the innocence of the petitioner: That the expences incidental to the very nature of fuch a caufe, had already, upon the neareft calculation, exceeded the fum of *thirty thoufand pounds*: That it was not within the extent of human wifdom to calculate the future expence, if the caufe fhould go on in a fimilar manner to the end of all the charges: That the petitioner was exceedingly alarmed at the profpect, as he might not have the means of entering into his defence, and was even doubtful whether he fhould have the means of fubfiftence for himfelf and family: That the Hon. Houfe of Commons had not proceeded farther in the impeachment than two charges; and from the mode in which the trial was conducted, the petitioner had no means of fhewing his innocence, and even his merits to the world: That the petitioner was in a very infirm ftate of health, and was apprehenfive that a call of nature might leave his name and character in a difgraceful fituation upon the records of that Houfe, and blackened in the opinion of mankind, whereas if the trial was immediately proceeded upon, and difpatched with alacrity, he had no doubt but he could clear himfelf from the charges, and point out infinite merits in the feveral great concerns of government of India, political, military, and financial; finally, that he humbly hoped their Lordfhips would accelerate the iffue of his trial.

The Lord Chancellor obferved, that as the Houfe was thin, he wifhed the petition to lie on the table, that it might be ready

ready for future consideration in a full House.—Ordered.

Adjourned.

H. of Commons, Feb. 9. The House went into a committee on the remaining clauses, but as the principles of the bill have been often debated in both Houses —nothing very new occurred.

The first clause that furnished occasion for debate, was, that which restrains the Prince Regent from any power in the disposal or application of the privy purse.

Sir William Cunnynghame reprobated the clause as injurious to the feelings of the Prince, and at the same time tending to impede his generosity; for notwithstanding the narrowness of his income, his highness had in the time of the late severe frost, sent down 200l. to the poor of Edinburgh.

Mr Dundas thought it very extraordinary, that any gentleman who wished well to his Royal Highness, should come down there, to make a parade of the prince's charities and florid speeches, &c. he for one was not displeased with the Prince for sending 200l. to the poor of Edinburgh; but the fact was, that 12,000l. of the privy purse was devoted to an established list of charities, and four more to an unknown list; both his Royal Father and his predecessor, had sent 2000l. annually to Scotland, for charitable purposes!

Sir William Molesworth moved, That, after the payment of the 16,000l. which was intended to be devoted to the charitable list already established by his Majesty, the remainder should be paid into the Privy purse of the Prince.

For the motion 101,—Against it 156, majority 55.

The clause for the establishment of the King's household, and for investing the government in the Queen, assisted by a Council, being read,

Mr Burke recapitulated all the observations which have been already held forth to the public against the restrictions, which prevent the Prince from having any controul in his Majesty's household. The Sovereign, he said, had been smitten from above! It was the hand of Providence which had hurled him from his throne, and plunged him into a situation which the lowest peasant in his dominions must regard with pity. He was, by the hand of Heaven, rendered incapable of discharging those duties which belong to the throne. It ill became those who, in the public temples, humbled themselves before the Almighty, to procure the recovery of the King's health, to hold a language in the senate so little suited to a state of humiliation. It was God, not man, who had stript his Majesty of his dignity · and the pomp and pegeantry of courtly attendance would ill become a bed of sickness. To bestow them upon a King in the situation of his Majesty, would be to mock him and degrade him, instead of supporting his dignity. It would be like putting a crown of thorn upon his head, a theatric sceptre in his hand, and *hailing him King of the Britons*. The House of Brunswick was put under an interdict by the Right Hon. gentleman, who consulted his own interest, and means of gratifying his own ambition: who laid up a *bank of power*, that might enable him to make his way back again to the situation which he now filled; for this reason he put a Crown on the Prince's head, but took care that it should glitter only with mock jewels, in his hand he put a lackered sceptre, and held him out without power, without authority, a laughing stock to Europe. [Here a call, To order, To order.]

Mr Pitt desired Mr Burke to show that there was a single principle or proposition introduced into the bill that was not previously investigated in the debate upon the Resolutions.

Mr Sheridan replied to Mr Pitt, and attacked the clause as unconstitutional, since it tended to the erection of a new power that might be abused to the purposes of undue influence. He moved by way of amendment, that only a certain part of the household should be subject to the controul of the Queen.

The question being put on Mr Sheridan's amendment, the House proceeded to a division, when the numbers were as follow:

For it, 118—Against it, 173.

Majority, 55

At half past twelve o'clock, the Chairman reported progress, and asked leave to sit again, as there still remained several clauses to be discussed. Adjourned.

H. of Commons, Feb. 10. *Mr Pitt* reminded the committee that they had now reached that part of the bill, in which the blank was to be filled up, with the names of the personages, who were assigned as a council to advise the Queen in the arduous situation in which Parliament had placed her. He knew of no better criterion to decide upon the persons who were entitled by their great influence

fluence and responsibility, than those who had been singled out by his Majesty, to fill the highest and most important offices of the state, both ecclesiastical and civil, as having a claim to his Majesty's especial favour and confidence. He then proposed the names of the Council, viz. The Archbishop of Canterbury; the Archbishop of York; Lord Thurlow, Lord High Chancellor; Lord Kenyon, Chief Justice of the King's Bench. To these four great personages, he should move to add four great officers of state belonging to the household, who had likewise been honoured with peculiar respect and approbation of his Majesty; namely, Lord Salisbury, the Lord Chamberlain; Duke of Montague, the Master of the Horse; Duke of Chandos, Lord Steward of the Household; Lord Weymouth, Groom of the Stole.

Lord North proposed that the Duke of York should be added, which was opposed by Mr Pitt, and, on a division, there were for the question, ayes for the Duke of York, 130. noes, 177. Majority against the Duke, 47.

Lord North then proposed Prince William Henry, ayes for Prince William Henry, 127. noes, 177. Against Prince William Henry, &c.

Lord North then proposed the Duke of Gloucest. ayes for the Duke of Gloucester, 129. noes, 179. Against the Duke of Gloucester, 50.

Mr Dempster then proposed the Speaker of the House of Commons for the time being. Negatived.

Mr Dempster then proposed the Lord Mayor of London. [Here a loud laugh.] Negatived.

The House next proceeded to the clause appointing the Queen, in case of death of either of the eight Lords of the Council, to fill up the vacacy out of his Majesty's Privy Council.

Sir William Molesworth moved an amendment, "that the Regency, with the advice of the two Houses of Parliament, should fill up such vancancy." Negatived.

The Chairman then reported progress, and the House adjourned.

H. of Commons, Feb. 11. When the House came to the clause which provides for his Majesty's resumption of the government, upon his recovery;

Mr Pitt rose and shewed, that they were bound by the law, the constitution, and by gratitude, to take measures that the Regency should continue no longer than the happy moment of his Majesty's capability to resume his right, the prospect of which was every day growing stronger. Such recovery must be communicated to the country by some ostensible channel; those who were in executive departments at the time, he thought would be most unfit persons—but the Queen and her Council were to make a notification to the President of the Council, and on his Majesty's requisition, under his Sign Manual, a privy Council were to assemble, and by that responsible channel was his Majesty's proclamation to be counter-signed, and the Parliament were to meet immediately--It was impossible that with such care a resumption under doubtful circumstances could take place—it would be a resumption Parliament would have to meet and contemplate with joy—a resumption long wished for by a loyal people, whose ardent and hourly hopes were for a speedy recovery of their beloved Sovereign.

Mr Sheridan contended, that the two Houses of Parliament were the only proper and constitutional judges of his Majesty's recovery.

Mr Dundas said the proposition of his Right Hon. friend (Mr Pitt) was to enable his Majesty, on his recovery, to come and meet his Parliament. The other proposition was to make him a humble supplicant for the throne which he had a right to. He never would agree to throw any obstructions in the way to his Majesty resuming his government. Was it to be borne, that when his Majesty was recovered, his Regent should come down to the Parliament as King, make a speech as King, while the Sovereign was to be a spectator of the pomp and show, out of the windows of Buckingham-house? No, he would never agree to such conduct, and he believed that House and the country would revolt at it.

Mr Burke got up to speak, but seeing a great number of members go out, he sat down till order was obtained. He then rose, and with some agitation, observed, that the *yellow capes* being gone, he would trouble the committee with a few observations on what had passed relative to the degradation of the House. (Here a violent cry of, Order! order! the question! the question)! Mr Burke then gave an account of his having lately visited one of those mansions destined for the reception of the insane (Bedlam,) and the regulations of the place. He then endeavoured

deavoured to show, from authentic documents he held in his hand, the difficulty of ascertaining the perfect recovery of persons afflicted with such disorders as his Majesty, and the dreadful consequences that often ensued from too great a confidence, as might be illustrated in the case of Charles the Sixth of France, whose kingdom had been drowned in blood, and the Crown torn from the head of the Heir Apparent. (Here a loud yawn interrupted him.) Mr Burke, with great heat, observed, that the House could not bear argument, but endeavoured to weigh him down with yawning and other similar conduct.

Mr Sheridan proposed, as an amendment—"That a certificate of his Majesty's recovery be laid before the two Houses of Parliament," on which the House divided; ayes 213; noes 181. Majority for the Minister, 68.

This clause, also all the other clauses of the bill, were then gone through, and agreed to without a division.

Adjourned.

Feb. 12. *Mr Pitt* moved the order of the day, for the third reading of the regency bill.

Mr Pultney adverted to the possible danger that might arise from the power of creating Peers being so long dormant. If a factious opposition should be carried on in the House of Commons, the Crown might exercise the prerogative of dissolution, and thus appeal to the people; but no such appeal could be made with respect to the House of Lords, in which House, if any faction should endeavour to counteract the measures of government, the only mode of prevention or restraint was to create new Peers. Though he did not conceive that such a faction was at present likely to prevail, yet the possibility of danger arising from it was sufficient to countenance the motion which he would now submit to the House, viz. that in the clause of the bill which restricts the regent from the creation of Peers, the duration of such restriction be limited to *three years*.

Mr Pitt was not inclined to apprehend the least danger from the Peerage being dormant for sometime: but as there was a possibility (though not a probability) of such danger, he did not feel himself disposed to resist the Hon. gentleman's motion, particularly as the period assigned was the utmost extent to which the King's recovery was likely to be protracted, and if that happy event should even be delayed to a much later time, it was not the wish of the supporters of the bill to continue the restrictions any longer.

Mr Sheridan moved, by way of amendment, that for *three years* there be inserted *one year*.

Mr Sheridan's amendment being negatived, Mr Pulteney's motion was agreed to.

The question being then put that the bill do pass,

Mr Sheridan moved that a clause be annexed to the bill, purporting that the King do not, after the issuing of the proclamation for the resumption of his authority, authorise any commissioners to prorogue or dissolve the Parliament, or give the Royal assent to any bill.

The motion was rejected without a division.

The question for the passing of the bill was then agreed to; and that the Chancellor of the Exchequer do carry it to the Lords to-morrow. Adjourned till Monday.

H. of Lords, Feb. 13. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, attended by several members of the House of Commons, came to the bar, and presented the Regency bill, which was read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time on Monday.

Lord Walsingham desired that the order which stood for Monday, relative to the trial of Mr Hastings might be discharged, which was agreed to.

He then moved, That the House do proceed in the trial of Warren Hastings, Esq: on Monday the 6th day of April next: and that a message be sent to the Commons, to acquaint them therewith. Ordered. Adjourned till Monday.

H. of Lords, Feb. 16. The order of the day was read for the second reading of the Regency Bill.

The bill was immediately read a second time, and the Lord Chancellor put the question that it be committed.

The question of commitment was then agreed to; and it was ordered to be committed to a committee of the whole House to-morrow.

Adjourned.

H. of Lords, Feb. 18. The clause which relates to the care of his Majesty's person, and the direction of his Household, being the first object for the attention of the Committee, was read.

Lord

Lord Rawdon ſaid, he ſhould not think himſelf juſtified in ſuffering the clauſe to paſs as it ſtood: He ſhould therefore move, that, after the words "Government of," be inſerted the following words, "to ſuch part of the Houſehold as ſhall be expedient."

Lord Hopetoun oppoſed the amendment, and ably anſwered the arguments of the Noble Lord who had propoſed it.

The Houſe divided on Lord Rawdon's amendment.—Not content, 89. Content 66. Majority for adminiſtration 23.

H. of Lords, Feb. 19. As ſoon as the prayers were over,

The Lord Chancellor left the woolſack, and informed the Houſe, that ſince his Majeſty's phyſicians had pronounced him to be in a ſtate of *convaleſcence*, the accounts of his Majeſty's progreſſive improvement had increaſed from day to day, and the intelligence from Kew was that day ſo favourable, that he conceived every Noble Lord would agree with him in acknowledging that it would be indecent and improper to go on with the proceedings in which they were engage-ed, under the preſent circumſtances, when the principle of the bill might poſſibly be entirely done away.—Congratulating their Lordſhips and the country therefore on the favourable proſpect of that event, to which the wiſhes and and prayers of all his Majeſty's ſubjects were directed, he would humbly ſubmit to their Lordſhips the propriety of the Committee's being adjourned till Tueſday next, and by his Majeſty's then ſituation in point of health their Lordſhips would be enabled to judge, how far it would be neceſſary or proper to go on with the proceedings.

Lord Stormont ſaid, he rejoiced that they had now a reaſonable ground of hope for his Majeſty's ſpeedy recovery, an event which he the more rejoiced in, as he conſidered it as likely to ſecure the ſalvation of the country. Regencies were at all times, his Lordſhip ſaid, expedients which the neceſſity of the caſe might require, but which no man, who knew any thing of political effects, would wiſh that occaſion ſhould ariſe to create. With regard to the preſent Regency Bill, he muſt take the liberty of ſtating, that he conſidered it as an aggravation of the calamity with which the country had been afflicted; he rejoiced therefore for *him*, who, if the favourable proſpect that had been opened to them by the Noble and Learned Lord, ſhould be realized, would find himſelf delivered from the hard duty which the neceſſity of the caſe would have impoſed on him, and which nothing but a neceſſity ſo urgent could have induced him to undertake. His Lordſhip ſaid, he would ſit down, making only this ſingle obſervation, which he had thrown out the preceding evening in general argument, viz. that thoſe who had the government of the country in their hands, who knew the real ſtate and preſſure of affairs both at home and abroad much better than he could pretend to do, muſt take upon themſelves to anſwer for every inconvenience that might ariſe from the preſent or any future delay. Conſidering that this was fair to ſuggeſt at that moment, he ſhould cheerfully give his conſent to the motion of the Noble and Learned Lord.

His Royal Highneſs the Duke of York. I truſt your Lordſhips will do me the juſtice to believe, that no perſon in the Houſe could feel equal pleaſure with myſelf, from the favourable account which the Noble Lord on the woolſack has given; and the motion he has made to the Houſe, in which I entirely concur. I ſhould have had great ſatisfaction in making the ſame communication to the Houſe, if I had been enabled to do it, from any certain information. I thought it my duty yeſterday, upon the favourable reports given to the public, to requeſt to be admitted to his Majeſty's perſon. From reaſons, very juſtifiable I have no doubt, it was not thought proper that I ſhould have that ſatisfaction.

From the knowledge I have of my brother's ſentiments, though I can have had no immediate communication with him upon the ſubject of this motion, I am convinced that he will feel equal, if not greater pleaſure than myſelf, at the hopes of his majeſty's recovery; as it muſt relieve him from the embarraſſment of the ſituation in which the bill would have placed him, which nothing but a ſtrong ſenſe of his duty to the public would have induced him to undertake.

The committee was adjourned to Tueſday next, and the Houſe roſe immediately, having alſo adjourned to that day.

. . . .

When a late addreſs was carried to her Majeſty at Kew, ſhe twice attempted to return her anſwer, verbally, from a note which ſhe held in her hand; but

a flood of tears as often suppressing her articulation, she delivered instead of words, the paper her grief prevented her from reciting.

When a certain great personage was at first applied to, relative to the regency and guardianship of his Majesty, she was pleased to express herself in substance as follows: "That she had never chosen to interfere in political affairs: that her gratitude for the reception and treatment she had always met with from this nation, had fixed her resolution never to hazard their good opinion, by a conduct in which from her incompetency she was unable to hope for success."—The noble and learned Lord who communicated the subject to her then desired her determination, in case her son should refuse it upon the terms and limitations intended to be offered him; and that if she should then decline, the care of his Majesty would devolve upon others. Here her affection was no longer to be stifled, and she declared, "that in such case her regard to her King and husband would not suffer her to withdraw a moment from the great task that awaited her, in which she could only hope for the blessing of Providence to assist her."

IRELAND.

Irish H. of Commons, Feb. 11. The Attorney-General was called upon to know what steps it was proposed to take in the present crisis. *The Attorney-General* replied, that uniformity was necessary, and he contended for similar proceedings with those adopted in England.

The House then went into a committee on the state of the nation, *Sir Lucius O'Brien* in the chair.

The Attorney-General wished for a further delay, to consider the evidence of his Majesty's illness.

Mr Grattan objected to any delay; and therefore moved the following resolution:

"That it appears to this committee, that the exercise of the Royal authority is interrupted by the indisposition of his Majesty."

This motion passed unanimously.

Mr Conolly then moved,

"That it is the opinion of this committee, that an humble address be presented to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, humbly requesting him to take upon him the government of this realm, during his Majesty's present indisposition and no longer; in his Majesty's name, and under the stile and title of Prince Regent of Ireland, and to exercise and administer, according to the law and constitution, all the regal powers, priviledges, and functions, to the crown and government thereof belonging."

A very long and violent altercation took place. At length, at three o'clock on Thursday morning, the House became clamorous for the question, and Mr Conolly's motion for addressing the Prince of Wales to accept of the Regency, was carried without a division.

Irish House of Peers, February 16. A very long and trifling debate took place upon the state of the nation. A delay was proposed on part of the administration, on account of the happy intelligence that had just arrived of his Majesty's being in a state of convalescence. The delay was objected to, because there was no evidence before the House of such an event having taken place, and an address was moved for his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to take upon him the Regency of the kingdom. Upon a division, that the House do adjourn for a fortnight, there appeared,

Contents,	20	Proxies, 6—26
Non-contents,	40	Proxies, 5—45

Majority against administration, 19

Feb. 19. This evening at 4 o'clock, the Lords and commons went in procession to the Castle, with their address to the Prince of Wales, to be forwarded by his Excellency—to which he made the following reply:

"Under the impressions which I feel of my official duty, and of the oaths which I have taken as Chief Governor of Ireland, *I am obliged to decline transmitting* this address to Great Britain; for I cannot consider myself warranted to lay before the Prince of Wales an address, purporting to invest his Royal Highness with power to take upon him the government of this realm, before he shall be enabled by law so to do."

When the Peers returned to the House, an immediate adjournment till the morrow was moved by the Duke of Leinster—in the Commons by Mr Grattan. Agreed to. This was done merely to give a little time to concert the steps necessary to be taken.

SCOTLAND.

Edinburgh, Feb. 13. On Friday last the Court of Session determined a cause of very considerable importance to the community, in which the Earl of Wemyss, Lord Monboddo, Lord Elsgreve

grove, Lady Betty Anstruther, Sir John Stuart of Allanbank, and several others of the principal proprietors of houses in Canongate, were pursuers; and the Magistrates of Canongate defenders. The question was, Whether the Magistrates of Canongate have power to quarter soldiers in private houses, or impose a taxation upon the proprietors, as a composition for that burden? It had been the practice from time immemorial, to quarter soldiers only upon those who exercise change and traffic within the burgh; but in 1780, a plan was suggested for subjecting the private inhabitants, and, in 1786, a decreet was pronounced by the Magistrates to that effect. Accordingly a taxation was imposed and exacted upon the house rents, for defraying the expence of quartering soldiers, which in 1786, amounted to 47l. 1s. 3d.; in 1787, to 68l. 7s. 2d.; and in 1788, to 88l. 18s. 9d. Alarmed at this gradual increase, to which there seemed to be no limits but the good will of the defenders, the pursuers brought the present action before the Court of Session. Their Lordships, after severally giving their opinions, pronounced an interlocuter, finding "That the Magistrates of Canongate have no power to alter the usage and practice of billeting and quartering soldiers upon the inhabitants, which has been observed by them and their predecessors for time past memory: That the pursuers, having residence in the Canongate in their private houses, and carrying on no change or traffic within the burgh, were not subjected to quartering by the former usage and practice, in case of local quarters; and therefore the pursuers are not liable to have soldiers billeted or quartered upon them for local quarters; nor in payment of any money in name of locality, otherwise, for the expence of quartering soldiers within the said burgh of Canongate; and suspend the letters *simpliciter*, reserving to the Magistrates, in the cases of transient quarters upon extraordinary emergencies, when the houses of those liable to be quartered upon, in the case of local quarters, are not sufficient to lodge the whole soldiers in the place, to extend the billeting and quartering to the houses of the other inhabitants, according to former usage."—Counsel for the pursuers, Mr Solicitor General, Messrs. Wight, Rolland, Balfour, and Blair; Mr James Bremner, agent. Counsel for the defenders, Lord Advocate, Mes. Fergusson and Hope; Mr John Peat, agent.

A similar decision was given by the Court in a process of declarator, at the instance of the Society of Procurators in the city of Glasgow, against the Magistrates of Glasgow.

MARRIAGES.

Dec. 20. At Inverness, William Robertson, Esq; younger of Kindeace, to Miss Chisholm of Chisholm.

29. Mr Cornelius Todd merchant in Glasgow, to Miss Janet Graham.

30. At Edinburgh, Patrick Smith, Esq; late captain of the 2d regiment of Dragoons, to Miss Elizabeth Dysert, daughter of the deceased Mr Sandilands Dysert, minister at Eccles.

1789. *Jan.* 13. At Edinburgh, Mr Dewar, surgeon, to Miss Anne Stewart, daughter to John Stewart, Esq; of East Craigs.

14. At Glasgow, John Murray, Esq; to Miss Isabella Lindsay, youngest daughter of the late Dr Hercules Lindsay, Professor of civil law.

14. At Blackwood, the rev. John Shaw, A. M. of Queen's College, Oxford, to Miss Mary Dunbar, youngest daughter of the late Sir James Dunbar, Bart. of Mochrum.

19. At Edinburgh, Sir Alexander Purves, Bart. to Miss Isobella Hunter, daughter of the deceased James Hunter, Esq; of Frankfield.

19. Near Ayr, James Maxwell, Esq. of Williamwood, to Miss Mary Campbell, youngest daughter of John Campbell, Esq; physician in Ayr.

26. At Glasgow, Mr Andrew M'Culloch merchant in Ayr, to Miss Jenny Douglas, daughter of Mr Andrew Douglas, hosier in Glasgow.

29. At Aberdeen, Alexander Hervey of Broadland, Esq. to Miss Mary Morison, youngest daughter of the deceased Mr James Morison in Tereglestoun.

BIRTHS.

Dec. 27. Lady Eleonora Dundas, of a daughter.

31. The Hon. Lady Eliz. Moncrieffe, Lady of Sir Thomas Moncrieffe, Bart. of a son.

31. Lady Helen Hall, of a son.

1789. *Jan.* 6. At Carphin, Fifeshire, the lady of Captain Walker, Royal Fusileers, of a daughter.

7. Mrs Maclean younger of Islamock, of a son.

19. At Fintray-house, Lady Forbes of a daughter.

24. At Scotstown, the Lady of Capt. Mackay of Scotstown, of a son.